

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPENT BY MINISTERS
ON TOURS ABROAD**

1115. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the expenditure of foreign exchange on travels abroad of Ministers on official work during June, 1968; and

(b) the break-up of such expenditure, Ministry-wise?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GRANTS TO STATES FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

1116. SHRI G. BARBORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total disbursement of grants-in-aid for urban development to various States during 1967-68; and

(b) whether the Union Government have taken up any scheme for the development of any urban area in Assam?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) An amount of Rs. 89.85 lakhs has been disbursed to various State Governments during 1967-68 as cent per cent grant for preparation of Master Plans of selected cities.

(b) Out of the above amount, Rs. 2.50 lakhs was disbursed to the Government of Assam for the preparation of Master Plans of the cities of Silchar, Dibrugarh, Tejpur and Jorhat.

TATA FERTILIZER PROJECT

1117. SHRI C. ACHUTHA MENON : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has reaffirmed its opposition to the proposed Tata fertilizer project at Mithapur;

(b) if so, what are reasons advanced by the Commission in opposing the project; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K.

RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) to (c) As the proposal is still under the consideration of the Government it is not desirable to indicate the advice given to the Government by different authorities at different stages and the reactions of the Government thereto.

FLOOD RELIEF IN KERALA

1118. SHRI C. ACHUTHA MENON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated damage to crops and loss sustained due to destruction of houses, property etc., during the recent floods in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala have approached the Centre for assistance for undertaking immediate relief work and the repair of damages caused by floods;

(c) if so, what are the details of assistance sought by the State Government in this respect; and

(d) the details of the nature of assistance the Central Government propose to give to the State in this connection?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The State Government had worked out their requirement of funds for flood relief expenditure at Rs. 3.69 crores.

An officer of the Ministry of Finance has visited the State to assess the situation in consultation with the State Government. In the light of his recommendations, a ceiling of Rs. 3.00 crores has been adopted for expenditure on various relief measures, including loans to cultivators and repairs to public properties damaged by the floods, for purposes of sharing by the Centre.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has already been advanced to the State Government in order to keep them in funds. The release of further assistance will be regulated in the light of the progress of expenditure on various items of relief.

STATEMENT *Flood
damages in Kerala*

(Based on information received upto the 10th August, 1968)

Area affected	2-4 lakh hactares.
Population affected	7-6 lakhs.
Damage to crops	70,000 hactares valued at Rs. 656 lalchs.
Number of houses damaged.	23,870.
Human lives lost	59.
Cost of damage to Public utilities.	Rs. 300 lakhs.

HOUSES IN RURAL AREAS OF U. P.

1119. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of houses built in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh for the Scheduled Castes under the Rural Housing Scheme; and

(b) the total amount spent for the purpose in the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) The Village Housing Projects Scheme is a social housing Scheme intended for benefit of all the sections of the rural population without distinction of caste or creed. No separate statistics are maintained regarding the number of beneficiaries under the Scheme belonging to Scheduled Castes. Since the inception of the Scheme in 1957, a total of 2,800 houses had been completed in Uttar Pradesh upto the 31st March, 1968.

(b) The State Government abandoned implementation of the Scheme in 1965 and have not yet resumed it.

FEES PAYABLE BY SCHEDULED CASTES STUDENTS

1120 SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state whether the scheduled castes students at the time of seeking admission to post-Matric courses including Medicine, Engineering, etc. have to pay full fees?

j THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE ! DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI J. B. MUTHYAL RAO) : The position varies from institution to institution, depending on local rules and precedents. In the case of fresh entrants to same institutions, tuition fees for one month or more may be collected, but this is re-imbursed soon after an applicant's claim to a scholarship is admitted.

i RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES

1121. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state whether any machinery has been set up to work out the recommendation contained in the yearly report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI J. B. MUTHYAL RAO) : No, Sir.

ELLYA PERUMAL COMMITTEE

1122. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ellya Perumal Committee on evaluation of 'Scheduled Castes and Tribes progress' is still functioning;

(b) how long this Committee will take to finish its work; and

(c) whether the said Committee has been appointed with the consent of the Scheduled Caste Commissioner who also submits a report to the effect every year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI J. B. MUTHYAL RAO) : (a) and (b) The Committee on Untouchability and Educational and Economic Uplift of Harijans had asked for it and was granted extension of time till the 31st October, 1968.

(c) No, Sir. Such consent is not necessary.