

Number of Fishing Boats Sunk into the Sea on 15.6.1983

2378. **SHRI CHITTA BASU** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of fishing boats were sunk in the sea on 15 June, 1983 which sailed into the sea from Sastikulangara of Quilon District of Kerala;

(b) if so, the number of ships sunk, number of persons who died and number of persons missing;

(c) other casualties and losses;

(d) whether any precautionary measures were taken by way of weather forecasts and warnings etc;

(e) compensation given;

(f) whether any inquiry was held;

(g) if so, the result thereof;

(h) whether all the fishing boats are not registered with the Port authorities as per the rules and the workers employed in the boats are not properly registered; and

(i) safety measures generally taken for the boats and their crew?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (i) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Guidelines to States for Utilisation of Draught/Flood Funds

2379. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines for the utilisation of funds

released on account of drought/floods to the State Governments under NREP or any other programme during the last 3 years including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the exact guidelines issued in this regard including the specific items on which the funds would be spent;

(c) whether any agency for authorising the expenditure at the District level/Block level has also been specified and if so, the nature thereof;

(d) whether any sample survey or monitoring has also been conducted for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the nature and result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) No funds are released on account of drought/flood relief under NREP or any other programme. However ceilings of Central Assistance are sanctioned to the affected States to meet the situation arising out of drought/floods as part of the policy of the Central Government on disaster relief since independence. The manner in which these funds are to be utilised are specified in each case separately based on the recommendations of the Central Team and its approval by the High Level Committee on Relief.

(c) After issue of ceilings of Central Assistance, States are free to determine the agency for use of the Central Assistance.

(d) and (e) A small Inter-Ministerial Team or the subsequent Central Team look into the progress of relief assistance. Most of the States have been reported to have used the Central Assistance for the purposes for which it was given.

Strengthening of Panchayati Structure

2380. **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN** : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :