

Jaipur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1220/85]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Sambhar Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Sambhar Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1221/85]

12.14 hrs

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[English]

Fourth Report

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-second Report of the Committee (Seventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Supply—Directorate General of Supply and Disposal.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1985-86

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for

Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1985-86.

12.15 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : FLOOD SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY

[English]

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : Floods in the country this year have so far been mainly confined to the North, North-East and Eastern Regions. The Brahmaputra and its principal tributaries, namely Burhi-Dihing, Dhansiri, Puthimari, Manas, Beki, Sankosh, Raidak, Jaldhaka and Tista and the rivers in the lower Ganga region like Mahananda, Kosi, Kamla-Balan, Bagmati and Burhi Gandak are in spate affecting areas in Assam, Bihar, and West Bengal and are flowing above the danger level. The flood situation in Bagmati and other rivers in the Lower Ganga Region has been aggravating over the last 24 hours. Yamuna river which has been rising has touched the warning level at Delhi yesterday. Ghagra, Rapti and Gandak have also been rising fast. The river Ganga from Rudra Prayag downward has been rising all along its course and has almost touched the danger level at Farakka. In the last month, the rivers in the Barak Valley had also been flowing above the danger level causing extensive damage in Assam, Manipur and Tripura. Local heavy rains and flash floods have also occurred in Kerala, Bombay, Jammu & Kashmir and Gujarat.

2. According to the information from the State Governments, a total area of about 9.7 lakh hectares and a population of 181 lakhs have been affected by the floods this year so far. Human lives lost so far are reported to be 340. The total value of damage due to floods (as on 29-7-1985) has been placed at Rs. 616 crores. Last year in the entire monsoon period the area affected by floods was 152 lakh hectares, the population affected was 504 lakhs, human lives lost were 1,577 and the total damage was reported as Rs. 1,653 crores.

3. I visited the flood affected areas of Assam on 19th and 20th July, 1985 covering