

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

an extensive area of about 400 kms from Majuli Island in the Brahmaputra river on the East to Gumi-Palasbari reach of the river on the West. I had discussions with the Chief Minister of Assam and the Ministers and officers concerned from the North-East region regarding the floods control measures in the region.

4. One of the main reasons for the mounting damages and losses is the increased use and occupancy of the flood-prone areas in an uncontrolled manner and encroachments into the natural waterway of the river by the people. To prevent this, a Model Flood Plain Zoning Bill had been suggested to the States in 1975. However, except for Manipur, no State has enacted legislation for the purpose.

5. I had written to the Governor of Punjab, Chief Ministers of States and the Lt. Governors of the Union Territories well in advance to take precautionary steps to meet any flood situation in their States/Union Territories during this monsoon season.

6. The Central Water Commission has a network of 145 flood forecasting stations on several major inter-State rivers. Since May, 1985, over one thousand four hundred forecasts have been issued so far to the State authorities concerned. Eightyfive per cent of these forecasts turned out to be correct within the desired accuracy range of ± 15 cms. and such forecasts have been very useful.

7. Recently the Ministry of Irrigation and Power have set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Brahmaputra Board, to monitor the flood control works undertaken in the Brahmaputra Valley by the Government of Assam. The Union Ministry have decided to release the Central assistance for these works quarterly on the basis of the reports from the Monitoring Committee. As an immediate measure of relief, an ad hoc advance of Rs. 4 crores has already been released for expediting the flood control works undertaken by the Government of Assam. The Brahmaputra Board is already working on the preparation of a master plan for flood control measures in the Brahmaputra Valley.

8. A comprehensive master plan for the flood control measures in the Ganga Basin is under preparation by the Ganga Flood

Control Commission. On 27th June, 1985 the Ganga Flood Control Board reviewed the position on the Master Plan as well as the preparedness of the Basin States to meet the flood situation in the monsoon of 1985, when it was also noted that repair and restoration of the breaches in Eastern Kosi Embankment and Mahananda embankment caused by the floods in 1984 have been carried out.

9. A brief statement giving State-wise report regarding the flood situation and the floods damages so far during this monsoon is given below.

Statement

Flood situation in the Country (As on 29th July, 1985)

During this year, the South West monsoon advanced over Kerala on 28th May, 1985, 4 days earlier than the normal date of onset i.e. June 1st. By 14th July, the monsoon covered the entire country. The India Meteorological Department has divided the country into 35 subdivisions from Meteorological considerations. Upto 24th July, the rainfall was either in excess or normal in 23 subdivisions. It was, however, deficient (20 per cent to 59 per cent below normal) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (-35 per cent); Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura (-23 per cent); East Rajasthan (-43 per cent); West Madhya Pradesh (-48 per cent); Gujarat (-37 per cent); Madhya Maharashtra (-21 per cent); and Coastal Karnataka (-20 per cent).

Reports received so far from the State Governments indicate that heavy rains/floods of varying intensity have occurred in the States of Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Punjab, Tripura and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Goa, Daman & Diu.

Appendix 'T' indicates the list of flood forecast sites maintained by Central Water Commission where the rivers have crossed the warning level during 1985 monsoon till 29.7.1985 and for which flood forecasts were issued by Central Water Commission to the State authorities concerned.

The total value of the damage caused by heavy rains/floods during current season as

on 29-7-1985 is reported to be of the order of Rs. 615.62 crores. Human lives so far reported as lost are 340. The position regarding flood situation in the affected States is given below and details of damage that have been reported so far by the State Governments are given in Appendix 'II'.

1. *Assam*—The State experienced two waves of floods : the first one from 20-5-1985 to 13-6-1985 and the second from 16-6-1985 which is still continuing. During these two spells of floods, the Brahmaputra and its tributaries *viz.*, the Burhi Dehing, the Subansiri, the Kopili, the Dhansiri, the Pagladia, the Puthimari, the Manas, the Beki and the Sankosh crossed their respective danger levels at various places.

The first wave floods affected parts of Sonitpur, Darrang Barpeta, Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Kokrajhar, Dibrugarh and Kamrup districts. Road and rail communication was disrupted at some places in the State. In Mariagaon subdivision, ten families were affected due to erosion. In Kamrup district, erosion occurred in the right bank and left bank embankments of river Puthimari on 31-5-1985 and 6-6-1985 respectively. Right bank embankment of river Nona breached on 4-6-1985. In Lakhimpur district, spoil bund along left bank of river Brahmajon was cut by public on 28th May, 1985. Erosion occurred in the newly constructed retirement of Kumotia. Old Brahmaputra dyke near Talipara and right bank of river Gabharu in Sonitpur district were eroded. Erosion also occurred at right bank embankment of river Dikrong at KM 3.0, left bank of river Gangadhar in Kokrajhar district and along banks of river Pagladiya and river Kumotia in Dhemaji subdivision. In Sonitpur and Darrang districts, embankments along both the banks of river Saktala were damaged due to overtopping at several places.

The second wave of floods affected parts of Sonitpur, Goalpara, Nalbari, Dhemaji, Kamrup and Barpeta districts. In Jorhat subdivision, Janjimukh-Mudoiyan PWD road breached on 18-6-1985. Left bank embankment of river Solangi in Sonitpur district was cut by public on 27-6-85 and the river changed its course through the cut and inundated the adjoining areas. Erosion took place at various places in the embankments in Sonitpur, Kamrup, Barpeta and Goalpara districts. Entire right bank embankment of

river Dhansiri, a south bank tributary of river Brahmaputra, was overtopped between Panjan to Borpathar and breached at 7 places. Brahmaputra right bank embankment adjacent to Hajo was eroded from KM 4.97 to 5.10 on 8-7-1985 in Kamrup district and water spilled to the countryside. Erosion is also reported at various places in Nalbari district, in the left bank of river Gainadi and at KM 36 of dyke of river Subansiri. Left bank embankment of river Hajo, the tributary of river Brahmaputra was cut by public on 10-7-1985. In Dhubri district, dowel bund at Kumarganj was overtopped in many reaches and flood water spilled over. In Dhemaji district, Kumotia dyke breached at KM 5 on right bank and KM 7 on left bank. Brahmaputra dyke near Silghat at KM 14 was cut by public on 21-7-1985. Left bank embankment of river Durpang, the northern tributary in Lakhimpur district breached due to erosion on 19-7-1985.

In total, there are reports of fourteen breaches and five cuts in embankments in the Brahmaputra Valley.

In Barak basin, river Barak and its branches/tributaries *viz.*, the Katakhal, the Kushiya, the Longai, the Sonai, the Rukni, and the Singla were in floods since last week of May, 1985 and flowed above danger level. River Barak at Annapurnaghat surpassed its previous high flood level of 21.08 metres recorded in 1966 and attained a level of 21.45 metres on 20-6-1985. River Longai at Chandkhira PWD road bridge site also surpassed its previous high flood level of 25.02 metres recorded on 15-5-1985 and attained a level of 25.04 metres on 18-6-1985.

The Hydrological Observations and Flood Forecasting Organisation of the Central Water Commission has flood forecasting station on river Barak at Annapurnaghat. It was forecast that water level would be 21.49 metres by 2100 hours on 19-6-1985 and be at 21.35 metres at 2400 hours on 20-6-1985 with falling tread.

Parts of Patharkandi, Karimganj, Badarpur and Silchar towns including the Tarapur locality and the railway line in the station yard of Silchar were affected. Right bank embankment of Nurulcherra, a tributary of river Longai in Karimganj district, was cut by public at three places on 28th May, 1985.

Embankments were overtopped and breaches occurred at various places in Karimganj and Cachar districts. In total 24 number of breaches have been reported in the embankment system of Barak, Longai, Singla, Sonai, Nurucherra and Katakhal. Also 13 number of cuts made by public have been reported in the embankment system of Barak, Madura and Nurucherra besides erosion at various places. Road communication was disrupted on Karimganj-Dharamnagar and Shillong-Silchar roads. Rail communication was also disrupted in Karimganj. Army was deployed on 21st June, 1985 for rescue purposes and the marooned people were shifted to safer places. The flood situation is reported to be improving though the receding trend of the water level is slow.

2. *Bihar*—River Kosi at Baltara crossed danger level for the first time on 17th July, 1985 and is still in floods. River Burhi Gandak, Bagmati, Kamla-Balan and Mahananda are also in floods and are flowing above the danger levels.

The Eastern Kosi Embankment had breached near KM 75 during the floods of September, 1984. The breach has since been closed and the position so far is reported as safe. Repair works for the breaches in Mahananda embankments have also been reported as completed. Retired embankments have since been constructed at the three gaps (Thori gap, Semarbari gap and Bhitha gap) caused by the breaches in 1983 in Piprasi-Pipraghat section of Gandak right embankment in Bihar.

The districts of Monghyr and Gopalganj are reported to have experienced very heavy rains and due to rise in water level and erosion, Badua upper nala reservoir (on tributary of river Badua) constructed in the last week of June, 1985 breached on 1-7-1985 in Monghyr district. The road connecting the Motihari retired bund with the old bund in Gopalganj district also breached. The Mahananda is reported to have caused erosion in its right embankment. The Ganga is also reported to have eroded western portion of two retired bunds in district Katihar.

The floods have affected 129 villages in six districts till 28-7-1985.

3. *Jammu and Kashmir*—Due to local heavy rainfall and flash floods, 28 human lives were lost due to house collapse and drowning.

4. *Kerala*—Heavy rains/unprecedented floods, sea erosion and landslides in the last week of June, 1985 affected whole State and caused severe damage to houses crops, school-buildings and private properties. Besides, 7337 kms of P.W.D. roads, National Highway, rural roads, bridges, sea walls, minor irrigation structures and canal systems of seven major irrigation projects were also damaged. Human lives reported as lost are 102. A Central Team visited the affected areas from 16th to 19th July, 1985 for assessing the situation.

5. *Maharashtra*—Heavy rainfall occurred in Bombay city during the month of June, 1985. Bombay (Colaba) recorded a rainfall of 35 cms on 17-6-1985 paralysing the normal life in the city. Human lives so far reported as lost due to heavy rains and landslides are 75.

6. *Manipur*—Rivers Imphal and Iril rose in floods in the last week of May, 1985. Two breaches took place in the embankment of Imphal river on 26-5-1985. Flash floods came from a number of hill streams in Bishenpur and Imphal districts and as a result, number of houses and paddy fields were damaged. Heavy erosion took place effecting embankments and villages at few places.

7. *Punjab*—There was intense rainfall in Jullunder, Hoshiarpur and Kapurthala districts on the night between 18th and 19th July, 1985 which seemed like a cloud-burst. In a few hours, the choes carried very heavy discharge of about 2 to 3 times of that for which the embankments were designed which resulted in the spilling over of the embankments.

Heavy discharge carried by the choes could not be passed through the drainage crossings under Jullunder branch, with the result that water headed up on the upstream side and entered the canal and then breached it at a number of places.

Near Alwalpur, the 'Madras-Jammu Express' was marooned on the 19th July as the rail track was completely flooded. About

1200 passengers had to be evacuated by boats and brought to Jullunder from where a special train was deployed to send them to Pathankot. National Highway between Jullunder and Amritsar was breached and the rail traffic between Pathankot and Jullunder was suspended as 34 kms of track was damaged/washed away. Rail track near Lohian junction was cut. State Highways, town roads, link roads, were damaged. Spurs, embankments, bridges and bunds on cohes were damaged/washed away.

Flash floods in river Swan affected crops in 10 villages in Rupar district and some kacha houses were damaged.

8. *Tripura*—Rivers Juri, Gumti and Manu were in floods on 17th May, and flowed above danger level. Four major bridges were washed away due to floods during 26th to 28th May, 1985. Large scale damage occurred to the embankments. A minor irrigation pump house pipelines was also damaged. Fifty villages were submerged and the State capital was cut off for 24 hours. Road communication was disrupted at Kailashahar.

9. *Uttar Pradesh*—Landslides were reported in the river Gola, 4 kms down stream of its origin in the hilly areas in Nainital district in the State, which caused blockade, resulting in the accumulation of water and forming of a lake. The blockade subsequently breached on 24-7-1985. Otherwise, the flood situation in the State is so far under control. The State have completed

the Turtipar-Srinagar bund along the Ghaghra in Balia district before the monsoon season.

Apart from the flood forecasting network established by Central Water Commission in the State, the State Government on their own are also issuing Daily Flood Bulletins to concerned officers and this arrangement is stated to be working satisfactorily.

10. *West Bengal*—Rivers Dwarkeswar and Gandheswari were in floods on 10th July, 1985. One breach occurred in right embankment of river Dwarkeswar in Hooghly district. Severe bank erosion occurred at Barikantatala on the left bank of river Fulahar. River Kaljani at Balabhut in Cooch-Bihar eroded the lands and affected the habitation in the area and disrupted local road communication. Erosion also occurred in left and right embankments of river Kaljani in Jalpaiguri, left bank of river Siltorsa and in right bank of river Mansai. A vast area of both forest and habitation on the right bank of river Pana was devastated due to its diversion through a new channel in Bhutri forest in Jalpaiguri.

11. *Arunachal Pradesh*—Three bridges were damaged/washed away on Passighat-Jonai road. Road communication was disrupted which was subsequently restored.

12. *Goa Daman and Diu*—Due to heavy rains in June, 1985 three breaches occurred in different bunds, inundating land and damaging roads.

Appendix-I

Central Water Commission Flood Forecast Stations where rivers have crossed warning level during 1985 monsoon till 29-07-1985

Sl. No.	River	Name of CWC Forecast Station	Warning level	Danger level	Highest flood level so far in any previous year		Maximum level reached so far this season		No. of Forecast issued till date 29-7-85	Level as on 29-7-85
					HFL	Year	Mts.	Date		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Brahmaputra	Dibrugarh	103.24	104.24	105.95	1977	105.48	6-7-85	131	105.18
2.	—do—	Neematighat	84.04	85.04	86.84	1977	86.26	29-6-85	64	86.00
3.	—do—	Tezpur	64.23	65.23	66.44	1980	65.84	27-7-85	50	65.72
4.	—do—	Guwahati	48.68	49.68	51.06	1962	49.81	12-7-85	26	49.73
5.	—do—	Goalpara	35.27	36.27	37.43	1954	36.10	29-7-85	57	36.10
6.	—do—	Dhubri	27.50	28.50	29.85	1972	29.22	29-7-85	109	29.22
7.	Burhidihing	Nabarkatia	119.40	120.40	122.69	1973	120.26	25-7-85	6	119.05
8.	—do—	Khowang	101.11	102.11	103.69	1984	103.61	26-7-85	35	103.19
9.	Subansiri	Badatighat	81.50	82.53	86.84	1972	82.68	15-7-85	7	82.18
10.	Dhansiri	Golaghat	88.50	89.50	90.68	1974	90.08	20-6-85	12	87.23
11.	—do—	Numaligarh	76.42	77.42	79.38	1974	79.22	20-6-85	109	77.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Kopilli	Kampur	59.50	60.50	61.86	1973	61.20	19-6-85	20	57.36 (27-7-85)
13.	—do—	Dhararamtul	55.00	56.00	57.15	1974	55.20	23-6-85	3	54.20
14.	Pagladiya	NT Road Xing	51.75	52.75	55.38	1984	53.50	1-6-85	59	52.37
15.	Puthimari	N.H. Xing	50.81	51.81	54.54	1979	54.05	3-6-85	109	52.67
16.	Manas	N.H. Xing	46.56	47.56	50.08	1984	48.31	29-7-85	56	48.31
17.	Beki	Road Bridge	43.38	44.38	46.00	1978	45.40	24-7-85	123	45.39
18.	Barak	Silchar (Annapurna Ghat)	18.83	19.83	21.08	1966	*21.45	20-6-85	34	18.28
19.	Katakhal	Matizuri	19.27	20.27	22.30	1981	22.27	19-6-85	22	16.66
20.	Sankosh	Golakganj	28.51	29.51	32.00	1968	30.14	29-7-85	74	30.14
21.	Jaidhaka	Mathabanga	48.20	48.70	49.60	1972	48.66	24-7-85	10	48.24
22.	Torsa	Ghughumari	39.80	40.41	41.40	1984	40.02	24-7-85	12	39.92
23.	Raidak	Tufanganj	34.22	35.30	26.05	1984	35.45	24-7-85	24	35.00
24.	Ganga	Hardwar	293.00	294.00	296.23	1978	293.10	24-7-85	1	292.30
25.	—do—	Farakka	21.25	22.25	24.52	1980	21.74	29-7-85	4	21.74
26.	Yamuna	Delhi Rly. Bridge	204.00	204.83	207.49	1978	204.12	29-7-85	1	204.12
27.	Ghaghra	Elgin Bridge	105.07	106.07	107.18	1983	105.46	27-7-85	13	105.24
28.	—do—	Ayodhya	91.73	92.73	93.53	1983	92.16	27-7-85	13	92.05
29.	—do—	Turtipar	63.01	64.01	65.09	1983	64.00	29-7-85	13	64.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
30.	—do—	Darauli	59.82	60.82	61.66	1948	59.88	29-7-85	1	59.88
31.	Rapti	Gorakhpur (Birdghat)	73.98	74.98	76.84	1974	74.33	29-7-85	2	74.33
32.	Gandak	Khadda	95.00	96.00	96.85	1978	95.75	25-7-85	41	95.45
33.	—do—	Rewaghat	53.41	54.41	55.04	1974	53.89	28-7-85	11	53.86
34.	Burhigandak	Muzaffarpur (Sikanderpur)	51.53	52.53	55.93	1975	52.06	29-7-85	3	52.06
35.	Burhigandak	Samastipur	45.02	46.02	48.63	1984	46.17	29-7-85	11	46.17
36.	—do—	Rossera	41.63	42.63	45.98	1974	42.89	29-7-85	14	42.89
37.	Bagmati	Benibad	47.68	48.68	49.56	1979	48.91	29-7-85	15	48.91
38.	—do—	Hayaghat	44.72	45.72	48.06	1975	45.22	29-7-85	3	45.22
39.	Kosi	Basua	48.75	47.75	48.44	1979	47.55	29-7-85	25	47.55
40.	—do—	Baltara	32.85	33.85	35.37	1974	34.68	29-7-85	23	34.68
41.	—do—	Kursela	29.00	30.00	31.85	1978	29.36	29-7-85	4	29.36
42.	Adhwara Group	Kamtaul	49.00	50.00	52.38	1975	49.97	29-7-85	5	49.97
43.	—do—	Ekmighat	45.94	46.94	48.57	1975	46.47	29-7-85	4	46.47
44.	Kamla Balan	Jhanjharpur	49.00	50.00	51.83	1975	51.39	29-7-85	20	51.39
45.	Mahananda	Dhengraghat	34.65	35.65	38.09	1968	36.22	26-7-85	22	36.13
46.	—do—	Jhawa	30.40	31.40	33.40	1977	32.23	29-7-85	20	32.23

* A new HFL reached this year.

Appendix-II

Statement showing Flood/Cyclone damage based on the reports received from the State Governments/Union Territories upto 29.7.1985

(Col. 6 + 8 + 11 in Rs lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Area affected in lakh ha.	Population affected in lakhs	Damage to crops		Damage to houses		Cattle head lost Nos.	Human lives lost Nos.	Damage to public utilities in Rs. lakhs	Total damage to crops & houses & public utilities	Date of report
				Area in ha.	Value in Rs. lakhs	Nos.	Value in Rs. lakhs					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Assam	5.23	19.93	0.60	44.86	109149	0.39	549	46	1035.80	1081.05	27.7.85
2.	Bihar	0.74	1.36	0.07	7.35	—	—	—	17	—	7.35	28.7.85
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	19.7.85
4.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.12	0.12	3.7.85
5.	Kerala	1.46	146.00	0.90	16150.00	478514	3290.00	19002	102	32636.00	52076.00	22.7.85
6.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75	7592.60	7592.60	20.7.85
7.	Manipur	0.11	1.05	0.001	4.21	164	—	19	5	270.21	274.42	25.6.85
8.	Punjab	2.13	10.00	2.06	—	—	—	—	55	75.00	75.00	28.7.85

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9. Sikkim			0.001	—	0.001	—	—	—	23	1	—	—	1.7.85
10. Tripura			0.02	3.00	0.020	243.07	13827	—	—	10	211.25	454.32	26.7.85
11. West Bengal			0.006	—	0.006	1.00	462	—	—	1	—	1.00	25.7.85
12. Goa, Daman & Diu			0.002	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17.7.85
Total			9.699	181.34	3.658	16450.49	602116	3290.39	19593	340	41820.98	61561.86	