

(3) A copy of the Delhi Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. Misc. 7(84)/P/75/16405-634 in Delhi Gazette dated the 30th November, 1976, under sub-section (3) of section 102 of Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-815/77].

portance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported unprecedented havoc caused to the entire sea coast of Kerala and some parts of Karnataka State due to severe sea erosion causing untold miseries to the coastal fishermen and the poor and loss to the tune of several crores and the continuous threat of sea erosion every year which results in loss of large area of land in Kerala and some parts of Karnataka State.

CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL OF MINES, DHANBAD FOR 1972-73, 1973-74 AND 1974-75.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): I beg to lay on the Table:—

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (A) Kerala: Kerala has a coastline of about 560 kms. The coastal strip is densely populated. The National Highway and Inland Navigation system run parallel to the coastline with only a narrow belt of land separating them from the sea.

(1) (i) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 1972-73 along with the Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 1973-74 along with the Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 1974-75 along with the Audit Report thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above papers. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-816/77].

Sea erosion occurs mostly during the monsoon months starting from the end of May when the sea is usually rough. In many places, the sea advances by 30-40 meters and recedes by 25-30 meters leading to loss of land of about 5-10 meters annually. This results in damage and loss of dwellings and agricultural land. The inhabitants of the coastal belt who are mainly fishermen are the most affected.

The Government are aware of the seriousness of the erosion problem on the Kerala coast, the loss and misery it causes to the inhabitants in the coastal belt, the threat it poses to the communications and also of the need for implementing works which will help in stabilising the shore land. The State Government of Kerala has been implementing anti-sea erosion measures consisting of sea walls, groynes, etc. since 1955 and, out of the affected reach of 320 kms., protection has been provided to a length of about 175 kms.

The State Government have reported that during the monsoon season this year (1977), coastal erosion has been particularly severe in several reaches

12.03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

HAVOC CAUSED BY SEA EROSION IN KERALA AND KARNATAKA.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the following matter of urgent public im-

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

along the coast. The loss to coconut plantations, house sites and houses have taken place in areas where no sea wall has been constructed. Some important structures like the light house at Bepur in Calicut District are in peril. The areas severely affected are Poonthura, area in front of Indian Rare Earths Factory, Chavara, Chellanam, Azhikode, Manakadavu Chamakkala, Chettuval, South Pior at Calicut, Madakkara, Chaliyom, etc. The extent of erosion is on the average about 10 metres width but has gone upto 30 metres width in Chamakkala. The severely affected portion is about 20 kms. in length. It has been assessed that the loss due to erosion is about Rs. 2.5 crores on account of loss of coconut plantations, houses and house sites, damage to protective works already undertaken, etc.

In areas where damage is severe and important structures are likely to be affected, temporary measures have been taken up pending construction of regular sea walls. These measures include protecting with sand bags, sand embankments, rubble mounds, etc. to protect important structures. Such action has been initiated in Chaliyam, Chellanam, Madakara, etc.

The Government of India has constituted a Beach Erosion Board consisting of experts. Necessary advice in planning and execution of the works as required by the State Government is given by this Board. The Centre has also been giving financial assistance to the State Government for implementation of emergent anti-erosion works. An amount of Rs. 4.39 crores was given as assistance during 1972-73 and 1973-74. During the first three years of the Fifth Plan, an expenditure of Rs. 5.94 crores had been incurred, out of which Centre's assistance is Rs. 3.75 crores. During the current year, the outlay proposed is Rs. 3.00 crores including proposed Central assistance of Rs. 2.00 crores. The expenditure so far during the current year is Rs. 54 lakhs.

(B) *Karnataka*: According to the information received from the State Government, there has been no damage due to sea erosion during this year. However, there has been inundation in a number of places in the coastal areas due to heavy rains recently. Traffic on the National Highway No. 17 at km 186 was closed on 19th July, 1977, due to flooding of Badagali Causeway.

Sea erosion generally takes place only at a few paces in Karnataka during the early part of south-west monsoons and protective measures are taken by the State Government as and when necessary. The State Government has not made any specific provision for anti-sea erosion works in their Fifth Plan.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, all the Members of Kerala sitting here, are very much disturbed about this unprecedented havoc caused to the entire sea coast of Kerala. It is really very distressing that every year there is a loss of land of about 5 to 10 metres because it not only causes damage and loss of dwellings and agricultural land but it affects the fishermen also. I am glad that the hon. Minister has made a very elaborate statement and this shows that he is fully aware of the problem. The hon. Minister has admitted that 320 kms. of sea coast is under constant attack from every monsoon and that the Government could provide protection to a length of about 175 kms. only. It is also stated that this year the loss due to erosion is about Rs. 2.5 crores. Because of this erosion, even some of the important structures like light house are in peril. If this erosion continues like this and no steps are taken, even the lagoons which are one kilometer away from the sea, will be submerged into the sea and we will lose that portion of the land also. It is really a very serious problem and both the State as well as the Central Governments have provided only Rs. 5 crores during this year to fight erosion by sea. This is really an aggression against our territory by the

Arabian Sea. Rs. 2.5 crores are already lost. What is the financial assistance that he will give immediately on a short-term and a long-term basis and what are the concrete steps that he propose to take immediately in this matter?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Regarding the light-house, I have received information only last night on telephone that the work on Bepur light-house near Calicut which was in danger is being carried out at that place as a measure of protection to that lighthouse. It has been started. Regarding the other part of the question, I would submit that as a provision of about Rs. 2 crores has already been made out of which only Rs. 45 lakhs have been spent, there is still a lot of scope. If there is any further need, we will go into that.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): If an army commits aggression on our country and the border is violated, I think, the Government will take all measures on a war-footing. I, therefore, request this Ministry to take measures in that fashion against the aggression committed by Arabian Sea on our borders.

In view of this, the question which I would like to put is, whether the Government will send a high-powered delegation of his Ministry in which members from the Deep-Sea Erosion Board about which there is a mention in the statement are included is sent to Kerala to make an on-the-spot in-depth study of the problems of sea erosion to suggest various measures to the Government and, if he agrees with that suggestion, whether he will enlighten the House as to how soon he will take action in that direction.

Another thing is that there are certain countries, like, Vietnam and China which are employing a new technique of planting trees all along the sea-coast to prevent sea erosion. I want to know whether the Government will study this problem and take necessary measures so that in

the long run we will be completely safe from sea erosion.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Regarding the first part of the question, I would say that a team of experts will go there. They have already been visiting those places where sea-erosion is complained of. They will go again there. It is possible, if I am free from the duties here, that I also might be able to visit that place.

Regarding the other part of the question about planting trees, there are already some trees, coconut trees particularly. So, the experiment has been made. An exhaustive study of this subject has been made for many years and the only solution found was not plantation of trees because the sand there is such that it can be taken down by the water when it comes with big force.

SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey): According to the statement given by the Minister, he has mentioned several places, like, Poonthura, Chevvara, Chellanam, Azhikode, Manakadavu, Chamakkala, etc. But there is a serious omission in the statement of my constituency, that is, Alleppey, which is the worst-affected area along with the places, like, Tumpoli in Alleppey. Punapara in Ambalapuzha, Trikumapura in Haripad and Aroor. My constituency Alleppey is the worst-affected area. Thousands of people have become homeless. They have lost everything. I am very sorry to say that. I would congratulate the Government of Kerala which is offering them free ration, etc. But that is not sufficient enough.

According to the statement of the Minister, out of 320 kms, protection has been provided to a length of about 175 kms. That means 145 km long coast has been left untouched. We want a comprehensive plant, a comprehensive programme for this; a piecemeal programme, a piecemeal arrangement would not help us in solv-

[Shri V. M. Sudheeran]

ing the problem or providing protection to the people. This is a very serious problem. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about this. I would also like to draw his attention to the financial assistance sought by the Kerala Government to the damages done as a result of this sea erosion. I want to know what action has been taken and what further action he proposes to take in this matter.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I am grateful to the Member who has mentioned another area, particularly the one which is in his constituency Alleppey and that this has also been affected by it. This information was received from the State Government on the Call Attention. We will try to get more information from the State Government, and this was all the information that we have received. I know that there is still a long strip of land on the coast that needs protection. This year, we are providing protection to 33 km. length of coast. We are doing more than what has been done before. If the State Government makes a comprehensive plan and submits it to us, that will be looked into and examined.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you have any idea of the comprehensive plan.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: We do not have any comprehensive plan as yet. This is for the State to submit to us.

SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN: What about the comprehensive plan?

AN HON. MEMBER: He wants to know about the comprehensive plan.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: No comprehensive plan was submitted to us. We examine those plans which are submitted to us by the State Governments.

SHRI B. P. KADAM (Kanara): I would submit that the information supplied so far about Karnataka shore

is far from satisfactory, is not correct. It does not give the real facts. It is possible that the State Government has not equipped the hon. Minister with the existing position which has been very much alarming during the last one decade. While the western coast is subjected to severe sea erosion for the last 200 years, as the sea experts tell us, it has been very much alarming for the last 30 years. As it is, the Karnataka coast which is about 200 miles long is under severe erosion during the monsoon for the last a dozen years. This year, on the 16th, 17th and 18th June, the rainfall had been almost 13 inches. During this month, on the 18th, the rainfall had been almost 18 inches and the shore has been subjected to severe erosion in the talukas of Karwar, Bhaikal, Kumta and also in the South Canara district. The position of the fishermen has been very precarious as their houses have been washed away, and we have seen the photographs of the fishermen who have been most distressed and are in helpless conditions. Equally, the coconut cultivation has also been washed away, and I may particularly point out that in the Karwar taluka in the northern portion of the river Kali at Deobag, the delta which was one furlong or more than that has been reduced to hardly a few yards and the distance between the sea beach and the Mavinhalla river is hardly a few yards. If the sea touches that area, there will be a severe danger because the sea water will engulf almost 5 miles of this entire coast of the Karwar taluka and the western Highway will be in a severe danger and there will be a big danger to the Kali Bridge which is under construction. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to let the House know whether you would have any anti-erosion scheme in your view about this State to protect the entire coast of Karnataka area as we have got at Marine Lines and the Chaupati area of Bombay this is quite necessary. Otherwise, if the State Govern-

ment does not come forward with any provision as is made out in the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Government of India cannot sit quiet because this is a very serious situation and an important view has to be taken about it. Otherwise, it will be a national disaster, as far as the entire west coast is concerned.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:

So far as heavy rains in June are concerned, I know—my friend is right there—that there have been heavy rains. But heavy rains do not have anything to do with sea erosion. This is entirely a different aspect.

Regarding sea erosion, we tried to collect information from the States, and the State Government has informed us last night. This is the information that has been received by us; this is the telegram received from the Divisional Engineer, Karwar:

“Traffic closed on N.H. 17 in KM 186....”

From such and such hours to such and such hours.

“...on 19th July, 1977, due to flooding of Badgalj causeway on account of heavy rains in that area.”

“Raining heavily for the last six days. All nullahs flooded. Danger to N.H. 17 between KM 126 and 241. Landslides at several places.”

Regarding the next question, I would submit that, for the time being, there is no proposal so far constructing a sea wall in Karnataka.

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Sir, I have given you notice....

MR. SPEAKER: I got the notice just before I came here. I am examining it. I shall give my decision tomorrow.

**(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I must look into the matter.

**(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: First permission must be given. Even the Prime Minister cannot answer without my permission. I must consider the matter. I have told you that I will consider it and give my decision tomorrow.

**(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record any of these things.

**(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag): You cannot stop us like this.

**(Interruptions)*

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): The hon. Member has no business to tell the Chair, ‘You cannot stop us’. It is not his authority. The authority of the Speaker cannot be challenged by anybody. He should be careful in what he says. This is not the way we conduct the business of the House....

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: You are not here to advise me; you speak to the Chair. Because, I know, you are not concerned with our dignity.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I am only speaking to the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member's dignity will not be affected if he waits for 24 hours.

**(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record.

**(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Member persists in speaking without my permission, I will have to say that I will not give the permission. Does he want me to consider the matter or not? He cannot bully me like this.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I am not bullying you, Sir. I was only respectfully submitting.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given my decision. He has to obey.

Mr. Patel.

12.25 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (NAGALAND), 1977-78—contd.

MR. SPEAKER: We now take up further discussion and voting on the demands for grants in respect of the Budget for the State of Nagaland for 1977-78.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): I have listened carefully to all the Hon. Members who have taken part in the discussion on the Budget of the Government of Nagaland for 1977-78. I am grateful to them for their comments and suggestions. In my reply, I shall attempt to deal with the major points which have been made in the course of the discussion.

I share the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Members that the economic development of this important area of our country should be speeded up, so that the State may catch up with the rest of the country. It is our endeavour to find solutions expeditiously to the complex problems which stand in the way of its progress and I welcome cooperation from all sections of the House in this matter.

Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu has mentioned that the expenditure on adminis-

trative services, especially Police, is disproportionately high. Hon. Members will appreciate that Nagaland has been beset with insurgency for the last two decades. Although peace has returned after the signing of the Shillong Agreement, the need for vigil still remains and the presence of police and security forces is, therefore, essential. While the level of administrative expenditure which accounts for 20 per cent of the total expenditure has to be viewed in this context, I think it can reasonably be claimed that developmental activities have been very far from being neglected. The Fifth Plan outlay of Nagaland at Rs. 83.63 crores is more than double the Fourth Plan outlay of Rs. 40 crores. In the current year, the Plan outlay will be Rs. 19.27 crores which is Rs. 1.57 crores more than in the last year. In addition, Rs. 6.22 crores have been allocated in the current year for Centrally sponsored schemes and schemes of North-Eastern Council and border roads.

I agree with Shri Shinde that greater stress should be laid on introduction of modern practices of agriculture in Nagaland. As he has pointed out, the primitive practice of jhuming cultivation which is very wasteful cannot be changed very quickly; it can be changed only gradually and through persuasion. This is what is being attempted by the Government of Nagaland through land development and reclamation schemes, demonstration of terrace cultivation, etc. I may mention that the current year's programme envisages increase of the area under permanent cultivation by 2000 hectares.

Shri Shinde has also stressed the need to harness the water resources. As the Hon. Member is aware, most of the area in the State is mountainous and there is no scope for any big irrigation project. The irrigated area has, therefore, to be increased through minor irrigation by provision of diversion channels etc. In the current year