

lopment) Act, 1937, under sub-section (1) of section 26 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2404/78].

EMPLOYEES' PF (2ND AMDT.) SCHEME, 1978, CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORT OF EMPLOYEES' PF ORGANISATION FOR 1973-74 AND STATEMENT FOR DELAY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Employees' Provident Funds (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1978 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 871 in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 1978, under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2405/78].

(2) (i) A copy of the Certified Accounts together with the Audit Report thereon (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for the year 1978-74.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above papers. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2406/78].

SHRI MALLIKARJUN (Medak): Sir, my submission is....

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: * * *

12.30 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
FLOODS IN U.P., ASSAM AND BIHAR

SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT (Jaunpur): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The heavy floods in UP, Assam and Bihar resulting in loss of life, property, crops and cattle."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): In 1978 the rain fall during the current monsoon from 1st June to 19th July, 1978 has been normal or in excess in Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. There was very heavy rain fall in east Uttar Pradesh for the last few days. Gonda received rain fall of 20 cm., Bahraich 16 cm, Lucknow 16 cm. Varanasi 8 cm. on the 16th July, 1978.

According to the reports received from the State Governments, the position regarding floods and flood damages in the States of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh is as under:

1. ASSAM:

The Brahmaputra Valley in Assam experienced four waves of floods, the first two of medium intensity occurred in the third week of May and the middle of June. The third wave occurred on June 22, when the Brahmaputra and its main tributaries, both in north and south banks

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala] crossed the danger levels at various places. The entire Assam Valley was in the grip of floods. The Brahmaputra and its tributary embankment system breached at 19 places, of which 7 breaches were unauthorised cuts made by the public. Road and rail communications were disrupted in upper Assam. The breach in the Brahmaputra embankment near Chutia in Tezpur subdivision was rather serious and the Army was called in for rescue and relief operation. The fourth wave of floods has occurred on July 17, and is continuing.

The Barak and its tributaries in Cachar districts were in high floods during the first week of July and subsequently receded.

A preliminary assessment of the flood damage as reported by the State Government indicates that an area of 2.10 lakh hectares and a population of 2.0 lakhs in 440 villages have been affected in the Valley. Jute and paddy crops over an area of 0.19 lakh hectares were also damaged. Two human lives and five cattle head were lost.

2. BIHAR:

Floods in the Gandak affected adjoining villages near Piprasi through a gap of retired bund and in Nautan block through a gap in Champaran embankment near Bishambarpur district in north Bihar. All other major rivers in the State were in low to medium floods. Preliminary assessment of the flood damage as reported by the State Government indicates that an area of 0.37 lakh hectares and

a population of 1.57 lakhs were affected in Sitamarhi and Darbhanga districts. Crops over an area of 0.06 lakh hectares valued at Rs. 56 lakhs were damaged.

3. UTTAR PRADESH:

River Ganga and its tributaries have so far been in low to medium floods. Heavy rains/floods have affected the districts of Deoria, Pithoragarh, Chamoli, Almora, Uttar Kashi, Shahjahanpur, Moradabad, Barabanki, Hardoi, Basti and Muzaffarnagar. A bund in Hasanpur tehsil of Moradabad district and Bansi-Bankata bund in Basti district breached. Almora and Bageshwar tehsils of Almora district were affected by heavy rains in the third week of June, damaging crops and houses worth Rs. 22.16 lakhs besides affecting irrigation works. Bhinga subdivision in Baharich district has recently been severely affected, and several villages were marooned. Communication from district headquarters and Bhinga was cut off. Help of Army was sought for rescue and relief operations.

Preliminary assessment of the flood damage made by the State Government indicate that an area of 1.23 lakh hectares and a population of 0.97 lakhs were affected in 379 villages. Crops over an area of 0.54 lakh hectares and 2701 houses were damaged. The total loss to crops, houses and public utilities have roughly been estimated as Rs. 38.32 lakhs.