

gastroenteritis, as followed by biochemical and clinical parameters. The chemical analysis of coconut water showed that as the coconut matures, sucrose concentration increases at the expense of the monosaccharide concentration. It was, thus, concluded that water from tender coconut is the ideal substitute for the classical I. V. fluids.

**Slow Progress of Centrally Aided Housing Schemes**

5273. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state

(a) whether the progress of the Centrally aided housing schemes has been slow; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). It is true that social housing Schemes have not made progress commensurate with the size of the need. The main reason for this slow progress has been the low priority accorded to housing in the scheme of national planning, against competing claims of other programmes like agriculture, irrigation and power etc. Consequently, the resources available for social housing have been limited.

**Indian Children's Health**

5274. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :  
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether health of the Indian children is the poorest in the World, and

(b) if so, the steps Government are going to take or propose to take to see that future generation of Indians would be physically fit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Agreement regarding International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics**

5275. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement has been signed in Delhi recently between the Government of India and the Consultative Group on the International Agricultural Research to establish an International Crop Research Institute for the semi-arid tropics; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

The Agreement was signed on 28-3-1972 by the Government of India with the Ford Foundation acting on behalf of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research.

(b) A statement indicating the salient features of the Agreement is attached.

**STATEMENT**

Under the Agreement concluded between the Government of India and the Ford Foundation acting on behalf of the

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics will be established near Hyderabad in India. The Institute will be an autonomous, international, philanthropic, non-profit, research, educational and training organisation.

2. The Institute will serve as (a) a world centre for the improvement of Jowar, Millets, Bengal Gram (Chana) and Red Gram (Arhar) (b) a centre to promote the development and demonstration of improved cropping patterns and systems of farming which optimise the use of human and natural resources in the low rainfall, un-irrigated, seasonally dry and semi-arid tropics.

3. The estimated capital costs of bringing the core programme of the Institute upto full operation are approximately 10 to 12 million dollars. Recurring core costs when the institute is fully staffed are estimated at 2.5 to 3 million dollars annually on the basis of present unit costs. The financial support for the Institute will be provided by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research including the IBRD, UNDP, IDRC etc.

4. The Government of India will recognise the international status of the Institute by issue of a suitable notification under clause 3 of the United Nations (Immunities and privileges) Act, 1947 and also provide land measuring approximately 1000 hectares on lease at a nominal rent.

5. The Institute will have Governing Board. The Board will have no more than 15 members including 3 members to be nominated by the Government of India. The Board shall be responsible for development and/or approval of the Institute's programme and for the policies under which the Institute operates. The Governing Board will select a Direc-

tor for the Institute who will be responsible for the internal operation and management of the Institute and for assuring that the programme and objectives of the Institute are properly developed and carried out

भावलपुर, बिहार में गंगा नदी पर पुल का निर्माण

5276. श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर : क्या नीबहन और परिबहन नदी यह बचाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल राज्यों को आवागमन तथा व्यापार की दृष्टि से सरकार ये आवश्यक समझती है कि बिहार के भागलपुर शहर में गंगा नदी पर पुल का निर्माण किया जाये;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बिहार सरकार से कोई योजना मांगी है अथवा स्वयं बिहार सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार को सहायता के लिए कोई योजना भेजी है, और

(ग) यदि ऐसी कोई योजना है तो वह कब तक क्रियान्वित की जाएगी ?

संतोदय कायं तथा नीबहन और परिबहन नदी (श्री राम बहादुर) : (क) से (ग). प्रस्तावित पुल, तैयार हो जाने पर राज्य सड़क पर पड़ेगा और इस तरह बिहार सरकार मुश्किल रूप से इस मामले से संबंधित है। न तो केन्द्रीय सरकार ने प्रस्तावित पुल के संबंध में कोई परियोजना धारणित की है और न ही राज्य सरकार ने इस मामले में वित्तीय सहायता लेने के लिए कोई परियोजना प्रस्तुत की है।