Community Projects (Intensive Evaluation)

***906.** Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state what would be the annual expenditure in each Community Development Block for intensive evaluation?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): About Rs. 12,000.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the staff appointed in each project for this purpose?

Shri Hathi: There is a Project Officer, a clerk, a typist and two peons.

Shri B. K. Das: Is it the same for the National Extension Block also?

Shri Hathi: It is not the same. In fact, it is not the staff for all the Community Projects. We have only selected 19 centres.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the total expenditure for this programme will be entirely borne by the Ford Foundation or part of it will be met by the expenditure that is made by India?

Shri Hathi: This is altogether a separate branch, separate from the Community Projects Administration. This is for the purpose of evaluating the work done in the Community Projects and that is made under the Planning Commission.

U.S. COTTON

***907. Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of U.S. Cotton purchased by India as a result of the fourth extension of the validity of the unutilised cotton licences of the Government of India; and

(b) the currency in which the payment was made?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Information about the quantity and value of purchases made is not available. 17,002 bales of 400 lbs. each, valued at Rs. 1,31,07,157, were, however, imported during this period.

(b) In dollars.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the varieties of cotton that we purchased from U.S.A. and their prices?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether we have made payments in rupee currency?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The payment is in dollars.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there is any agreement that we can make payments in rupee currency?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not that I know of.

VISA OFFICE IN HYDERABAD (SIND)

*908. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any visa office has been opened in Hyderabad (Sind);

(b) how many persons have been granted visas up till now; and

(c) the average number of visas issued per day?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). The visa office is being opened and will start functioning shortly.

IRRIGATION AND POWER PROJECTS IN STATES

***909. Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to enable the State Governments to raise loans for the specific purpose of undertaking new power and irrigation projects in their areas, has been worked out