

of Cuddapah District for the construction of lower Sagileru project; and

(b) whether any amount had been sanctioned as a loan or grant to the Madras Government for its construction?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). No, but it is understood that, as a famine relief measure, the Madras Government recently ordered the excavation of channels of the Sagileru project. No loan or grant has been sanctioned by the Central Government specifically for this project. The project does not at present form part of the Five Year Plan of the Madras State.

DAMAGED AMERICAN COTTON

***618. Shri S. V. L. Narasimham:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India is drawn to the fact that 200,000 bales of damaged American cotton are lying in the docks of Bombay and that the Indian importers are not willing to take delivery;

(b) the cost of these stocks;

(c) whether the goods were insured with Indian Insurance Companies;

(d) what was the condition of the goods at the time of (i) shipment and (ii) arrival at the port of Bombay; and

(e) what steps have been or are being taken by the Government in this behalf?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Government of India's attention has been drawn to the fact that certain quantities of American cotton have arrived in a damaged condition. But the actual quantity damaged and cost thereof is not known.

(c) The Government understand that some quantity was so insured.

(d) The matter is under investigation.

(e) The Government had already taken up the matter with the appropriate authorities on the first report of the damage early in April. The Government are asking their diplomatic representatives in U.S.A. to assist in the negotiations between shippers in U.S.A. and the importing interests in India.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

***619. Shri Bhakta Darshan:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the 55 Community Development Projects, approved for the whole country, have been sanctioned for Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and the hilly parts of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, which particular areas of the above-mentioned hilly States and regions have been selected for this purpose;

(c) whether, considering the special conditions of these areas, any variations have been made in the general plan approved for the whole country; and

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration for the association of the Members of the Parliament representing those areas with these Projects?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). The following hill areas in Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Himachal Pradesh have been selected:

- (1) Almora.
- (2) Cachar District.
- (3) Darrang District.
- (4) Two Development Blocks in the tribal area.
- (5) Sirmur.
- (6) Mandi.

No community projects have been allotted to the hill areas of West Bengal and the Punjab. A project for Kashmir, outside the scope of the Indo-American Technical Co-operation Agreement, is separately under consideration.

(c) Detailed programmes for each project will be drawn up by the State Governments after a preliminary survey of the areas, having regard to local needs and variations.

(d) It has been recommended to State Governments that Members of Parliament and State Legislatures coming from the project area concerned should be included in the Project Advisory Committee set up for each Project.