

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN U.P.

*1214. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the names and location of Community Projects in U.P. and specially in Banaras and Gorakhpur divisions, and

(b) the amount spent on them?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) Six projects have been allotted to Uttar Pradesh as follows:

- (1) Maharaj Ganj-Sadar Tehsils—Gorakhpur District.
- (2) Ghosi-Muhammadabad-Gohana Tehsils—Azamgarh District.
- (3) Bikapur Tehsil—Faizabad District.
- (4) Mainpuri Tehsil—Mainpuri District.
- (5) Garautha-Mauranipur Tehsils—Jhansi District.
- (6) Almora Tehsil—Almora District.

(b) NIL.

Shri Ganpati Ram: In view of the fact that the Eastern districts of UP are mostly drought districts, may I know whether the Government will give priority to the implementation of these projects with larger sums?

Shri Nanda: So far as each project is concerned, a sum has already been settled. There is not going to be much variation in respect of the different projects.

Shri Ganpati Ram: May I know what is the sum of money that is to be spent by the Central Government and what is the contribution of the State Government in 1952-53.

Shri Nanda: I have given details regarding that already.

Shri Ganpati Ram: May I know what estimates are made in the sphere of development, production of foodgrains and manufactured goods, education and how far this will help in the amelioration of the economic condition of the people in the eastern districts of the UP?

Shri Nanda: A survey is in progress in respect of the community projects and precisely what will be the outcome will depend upon the result of that survey.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE TO DISTRESSED AREAS OF WEST BENGAL.

Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to

refer to my short notice question answered on the 5th June, 1952 and state:

(a) the scarcity areas he visited during his recent tour to West Bengal;

(b) the extent of distress in these areas and other areas brought to his notice as seriously affected;

(c) the main causes of distress in these areas;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bring down the prices of food-grains to make them within the reach of ordinary people;

(e) the number of persons covered by test relief and gratuitous relief;

(f) the stocks of rice and wheat with the State Government at present; and

(g) the estimated quantities of rice and wheat that would be necessary to meet the situation in places outside the areas statutorily rationed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Chakdah in Nadia District and Hatgachi, Bermajur and Hasnabad in Sunderban area.

(b) Severe distress prevails in all these places particularly in 3 Thanas of 24-Parganas viz. (1) Hasnabad, (2) Sandeshkhali and (3) part of Haroa. The population affected in this area is 4.1 lakhs approximately.

(c) The prevalence of acute distress in these areas is due to (i) considerable damage caused to crops on account of breaches in the embankments in consequence of the floods of September 1950, (ii) failure of crops due to irregular rainfall in 1951, (iii) high price of rice and (iv) low purchasing power of the people.

(d) One of the reasons for the rise in prices in 24-Parganas district is that local rice is being smuggled into Calcutta. The State Government are being given extra rice for distribution in Calcutta through a chain of special shops and simultaneously measures against smuggling of rice into Calcutta will be tightened. These measures have the effect of stopping local rice from leaving the area, and the price is expected to fall. The Government are also issuing 10,000 tons of rice and 10,000 tons of wheat in the affected parts at a reduced price of Rs. 15 per maund.

(e) About 8,500 people are daily provided with work on test works and gratuitous relief has been rendered to more than 5,000 families.

Besides, 5,000 mds. of wheat and 5,000 mds. of rice are being distributed as gratuitous doles through non-official organisations.