

vation schemes to be executed in the backward areas, is also under consideration.

Irrigation Schemes

565. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States Food Ministers' Conference has appointed a working group to go into the difficulties faced by small irrigation schemes; and

(b) if so, when this group is expected to submit its report?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). At an informal Conference of the State Ministers of Agriculture convened by this Ministry on the 29th and 30th August, 1962, it was mentioned that inadequate and delayed supplies of cement, iron and steel and coal hampered minor irrigation works as well as other programmes of agricultural development. It was accordingly suggested by the Ministers that to assist in bringing about an improvement in the supply position of these important materials the existing procedures should be carefully examined and suitable changes in them suggested with a view to ensure timely and adequate availability of these commodities to agriculturists and for agricultural development programmes in general including godowns for warehousing of agricultural supplies and agricultural produce. The Conference, therefore, decided to set up a compact Working Group which met on the 24th and 25th September, 1962 and has since submitted its report.

Survey and Settlement Department Workers in Tripura

566. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the

Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Holiday is being observed by the field workers under the Survey and Settlement Department, Tripura in every week, i.e. on Sunday;

(b) if not, whether any special wages or overtime wages are being given to those employes for their work on Government Holidays; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). No.

(c) The Survey and Settlement operation has to follow a rigid phased programme. Due to prolonged rainy season, the time available for field work is limited. No holiday is, therefore, observed from October to May. The field workers are, however, adequately compensated by the comparative leisure and holidays that they enjoy on full remuneration during the slack season.

Co-operative Societies of Handcart Pullers

567. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Yallamanda Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned any scheme for the formation of co-operative societies by handcart/trolley pullers;

(b) the amount being allotted for this scheme and the details thereof;

(c) whether any such cooperatives had been formed in any of the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes Sir, a scheme for the organization of co-operatives of handcart pliers on a pilot oasis has been sanctioned.

(b) The Central Government will provide (i) loans to state governments to the extent the latter advance loans to societies for purchase of hand carts subject to the maximum of Rs. 10,000 per society repayable within a period of five years in equated annual instalments, (ii) grants to state governments/union territories to give subsidies for managerial expenses upto Rs. 900/- per society spread over a period of 3 to 5 years. The subsidy will be shared on 50:50 basis with the State government.

(c) So far, no society has been organised under this scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Motor Transport in Tripura

568. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vehicles engaged in transport in Tripura;

(b) total number of persons working as drivers and assistants in these motor transport;

(c) the highest and lowest rate of wages paid to these workers; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce any minimum wage rate for these employees?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 1619 (As on 29-10-1962).

(b) 2561 (1659 drivers and 902 driver assistants).

(c) Rs. 175/- and Rs. 50/- respectively, per month.

(d) The matter is under the consideration of the Tripura Administration.

P. and T. Employees

569. { **Shri Buta Singh:**
Shri Gulshan:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of P. & T. Officials with service of three years and more whose services were terminated under Rule 5 of Temporary services Rules throughout India during 1960, 1961 and upto October, 1962 for reasons unconnected with the General Strike of July, 1960;

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste employees among them; and

(c) the reasons for not awarding quasi-permanency to the above-said officials?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Farm Output

570. **Shri Sezhayan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the short-term loans given by the Central Government to the different State Governments for increasing farm output during 1960-61 and 1961-62; and

(b) the outstanding loan amounts and interests repayable by the States towards the loans granted prior to 1st April, 1960?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 65].

(b) The Accountants General concerned are responsible for the recovery of loans granted by the Central Government. Information regarding the outstanding loan amounts and interest repayable by the States on loans granted prior to 1-4-1960 is not, therefore, readily