

**Rigs and Drilling Equipment in M.P.**

5148 **Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary :**  
**Shri G. S. Mishra :**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the number of rigs and drilling equipment operating or available for use at present in Madhya Pradesh and the rates charged for their use

(b) whether these have remained idle for want of demand,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of providing rigs and drilling equipment for use in Madhya Pradesh at subsidized rates specially because of acute water shortage there?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde) (a) to (d) The required information is being collected from Madhya Pradesh Government and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received

**Minor Irrigation Works in Goa Daman and Diu**

5149 **Shri Shinkre** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Government of the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu have finalised any scheme regarding minor irrigation works and have approached the Central Government for sanction, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Yes

(b) During 1966-67, minor irrigation schemes amounting to Rs 3.39 lakhs were approved. A Statement giving the details of these schemes is placed on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-982/67] For 1967-68, the plan outlay is Rs 12 lakhs.

**Indian Central Cotton Committee**

5150 **Shri E. R. Singh Deo.**  
**Shri D. N. Deb**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is fact that the Indian Central Cotton Committee was abolished on the advice of two U.S.A. experts

(b) if so the nature of the advice, and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative the reasons for its abolition?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) to (c) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No. LT 987/67]

**Contest in the Last Elections by Scheduled Caste Candidates**

5151 **Shri D. R. Parmar:**  
**Shri B. K. Amin:**

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state

(a) the number of scheduled caste candidates who contested the last

General Elections on general seats with details thereof State-wise together with their political affiliations; and

(b) the number out of them who won the elections with details State-wise together with their political affiliations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

#### New Agricultural Proposal in Gujarat

5152 Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes which will be implemented in Gujarat under the new agricultural strategy formulated by the Central Government

(b) the amount allotted to Gujarat for this purpose in 1967-68.

(c) the allocations made, scheme-wise, and

(d) the agricultural target fixed for Gujarat under this new agricultural strategy?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See. No. L.T. 1964/67].

1274 (A) LSD-3.

#### Cultivable Land in Gujarat

5153 Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of land which is at present under cultivation in Gujarat State;

(b) the total cultivable land which is lying uncultivated for the last several years in Gujarat; and

(c) whether the matter of bringing this uncultivated land under cultivation has been taken up with the Government of Gujarat in the context of the food deficit in the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) An area of 250 lakh acres is under cultivation in Gujarat State.

(b) An area of approximately 25 lakh acres of cultivable land is reported to be lying unutilized

(c) The question of bringing the uncultivated land under cultivation has been constantly engaging the attention of Government and suitable schemes have been included in the State's Plan. However, the whole of the cultivable waste-land cannot be brought under cultivation due to lack of irrigation facilities and other problems such as salinity and inundation from sea, as in case of large parts of the Rann of Kutch and the coastal belt.