

**Backward Areas and Blocks in M.P.**

**7021. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:**  
**Shri N. K. P. Salve:**  
**Shri G. C. Dixit:**

Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are backward areas and blocks in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for their development?

**The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta):** (a) The State Government has not yet identified the markedly backward areas in the State on the basis of selected indicators of regional development as suggested by the Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cooperative and Credit Societies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh**

**7022. Shri N. K. P. Salve:**  
**Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:**

Will the Minister of **Social Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cooperative societies and other credit societies started so far separately for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh and the number of persons deriving benefits therefrom;

(b) how many more societies are likely to be started hereafter; and

(c) if not, whether the present societies are enough to meet the needs of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Madhya Pradesh?

**The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrani Guha):**

(a) Scheduled Castes	—	57
Scheduled Tribes	—	1236

All members of these Cooperative Societies derive benefits; the membership varies from time to time.

(b) During the Fourth Five Year Plan, the State Government propose to start 950 more societies.

(c) Does not arise.

**Centrally Sponsored Irrigation Projects in Kerala**

**7023. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:**  
**Shri N. K. P. Salve:**

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1866 on the 8th June, 1967 and state:

(a) the total amount granted so far by the Central Government and proposed to be granted hereafter for completing the projects referred to therein;

(b) the area which each project is to irrigate in each State and area actually being irrigated at present by each project; and

(c) the total power each project is generating at present and the additional power which would be generated on their completion and the quantity shared by each concerned State at present?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao):** (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1235/67].

**Financial Assistance to Gujarat**

**7024. Shri P. N. Solanki:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat have not been provided with any financial assistance from the Centre for the current year so far to meet scarcity conditions in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?