

years and the foreign exchange sanctioned on such trips;

(b) the number of women out of them and the amount sanctioned to them; and

(c) the reasons for their travel?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Total payments on 'travel abroad' for various purposes such as Education, Business, Health, etc. for the last three years are as under :

1964	Rs. 10.34 Crores
1965	Rs. 11.34 Crores
1966	Rs. 12.10 Crores

Details regarding number of persons who were allowed to go abroad on release of foreign exchange are not readily available and the Reserve Bank will need to collect such data from their regional Offices, Authorised Dealers, etc.

(b) & (c). There is no separate or special policy for travel by women. Women wishing to travel abroad will become eligible for foreign exchange if they fulfil the criteria applicable to various categories of travel on their own merits. Separate data on travel by women is not maintained. In view of the general policy, the efforts involved in collecting such data will not be commensurate with the results achieved.

LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEMES BY SOCIAL WELFARE FUNDS

979. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that streams flow in the Agency areas in Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh having water in all the seasons;

(b) whether there is a proposal for lift irrigation schemes by electricity by his Department;

(c) if so, the estimated amount provided for the purpose during the current year; and

(d) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) There are some perennial streams in these areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

PRIMARY GOLD

980. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued an Ordinance against the possession of primary gold beyond the 31st August, 1967;

(b) if so, whether there has been any appreciable surrender of primary gold as a result of this measure; and

(c) if so, the quantity thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) No ordinance has been issued by the Government. Rule 9 of the Defence of India (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1966, has the effect of banning private possession of primary gold after the expiry of a period of six months from the commencement of those rules. The said Rule 9 came into force on 1-3-1967; accordingly, no person other than a licensed dealer, certified goldsmith or licensed refiner can either own or have in his possession, custody or control any primary gold after 31-8-1967.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

अर्थों के लिये दुकानें

981. श्री ना० स्व० शर्मा : क्या निर्माण, आवास तथा पूति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार उन विकलांग और अंधे व्यक्तियों को, जो कुछ काम करके जीविका कमाना चाहते हैं, प्राथमिकता के आधार पर दुकानें अलाट करने की सुविधा प्रदान करती है।