

No proposal from the Tamil Nadu Government for the establishment of a spinning mill is pending with the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

**Abolition of the practice of carrying
Nightsoil on Head**

5373. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL:
Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a time bound programme to abolish the system of carrying on head the nightsoil under 'Bhangi Kasht Mukti Yojna' and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any special employment drive is also proposed to be launched for the people of this category?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):
(a) and (b). The Ministry of Welfare have taken up a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Liberation of Scavengers' with the twin objective of (i) converting all the existing household and approach basis in selected small and medium towns, and (ii) rehabilitation of unemployed scavengers in alternative employment and occupations simultaneously.

Till 1988-89, 226 towns were covered. Under Action Plan for 1989-90, 264 new small and medium towns were taken up; and, during 1990-91, it is proposed to take up 500 new towns.

Procured Paddy to Rajasthan

5374. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether procurement of paddy has exceeded the target this year and if so, the total quantity thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to allot paddy to Rajasthan out of this procured paddy at procurement price itself; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):
(a) No target is fixed for procurement of paddy, as the paddy is procured against voluntary offers by the farmers under the price support scheme of the Government. 30.35 lakh tonnes of paddy has been procured during the current kharif marketing seasons 1989-90 upto 12.4.90, as against 10.99 lakh tonnes of paddy procured during the corresponding period last year.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

[*English*]

Irrigation Potential of Orissa

5375. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land in Orissa which have been brought under irrigation so far;

(b) whether there is a tremendous irrigation potential available in Orissa;

(c) whether there is also a need to increase areas under irrigation in that State; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in that regard during the Eighth Five-Year-Plan?