

(Rs. Lakhs)

Head of Development	Agreed Outlay
General Education	670.00
Art and Culture	34.00
Technical Education	35.00
Medical (Excl. E.S.I.)	507.00
Employees State Insurance Scheme	
Public Health and Sanitation	
Sewerage and Water Supply	
Housing (Excl. Police Housing)	402.00
Urban Development	61.00
Information and Publicity	8.00
Labour and Labour Welfare	37.50
Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes	180.00
Social Welfare	25.00
Nutrition	50.00
Others	1.00
VI. <i>Social and Community Services</i>	2660.50
Secretariat-Economic Services	12.00
Economic Advice and Statistics	40.00
VII. <i>Economic Services</i>	52.00
Stationery and Printing	10.00
Public Works including Police Housing	100.00
VIII. <i>General Services</i>	110.00
GRAND TOTAL	22105.00

Committee to review 'Food for Work Programme'

219. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has set up a Committee to review the progress

made with regard to the 'Food for Work Programme' started by State Governments;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c). The Planning Commission has not set

up any Committee as such to review the progress made with regard to 'Food for Work Programme'. The existing Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has, however carried out a quick evaluation study of this programme. The interim report of the evaluation study was submitted to the Government in December 1979. A copy of the summary of the main findings and recommendations is enclosed. The Ministry of Rural Reconstruction have issued suitable guidelines to the States in the light of the Programme Evaluation Organisation's report.

A QUICK EVALUATION STUDY OF FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAMME

(August—October 1979)

An Interim Report

SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BROAD FINDINGS

1. *Classification of beneficiaries:*

(i) Of the total beneficiaries 50.6 per cent were agricultural labourers, 22.4 per cent cultivators, 19.7 per cent non-agricultural labourers and 7.3 per cent others.

(ii) Of the total beneficiaries 42 per cent were scheduled castes, 13 per cent scheduled tribes and 45 per cent others.

(iii) 80 per cent of the persons engaged in Food For Work Programme were males and 20 per cent females.

2. *Planning and administration of the Programme:*

(i) State level Steering Committees were formed in all the States. However, the meetings were not held as frequently as required in some States.

(ii) Out of 20 districts, district level Steering Committees were formed specifically only in 7 districts. In other districts the already existing district level committees performed the function.

(iii) In the matter of planning and implementation wherever the village panchayats were fully involved, the projects were planned generally according to the needs of the village community. The technical departments worked in isolation from other departments and utilised foodgrains for continuing their normal activities. There is need for coordination in the selection of projects, in fixing priorities and in progress reporting at district level.

(iv) The method of registration of labourers for employment was found only in 5 districts. In the rest 15 districts no specific method of registration for selection of workers was followed.

(v) In a district certain difficulties were reported in planning and implementation of the programme. For example, some of these difficulties related to lack of planning and coordination between various departments, non-availability of timely supply of foodgrains from FCI, non-cooperation of local people, lack of availability of implements and technical know-how, etc. Timely and uninterrupted supply would reduce malpractices in distribution of foodgrains to wage earners.

(vi) No financial limits are fixed in most of the States in undertaking the various works. However, limits are fixed for sanction by officials at various levels. Difficulties were, therefore, experienced in getting the financial sanctions from higher levels. To avoid reference for sanction by higher level officials, panchayats either created assets which did not conform to standard norms or they fragmented the projects and treated each fragment as a separate project. It is, therefore, desirable to streamline the procedure for speedy sanction of projects.

3. *Progress of the Programme:*

(i) Additional employment generated through the Food for Work Programme during 1978-79 over the previous year per selected household

of the sample villages varied from 3 mandays to 167 mandays. The extent of additional employment generated over the last year ranged from 0.7 per cent to 76.1 per cent. The overall percentage increase in employment for all the selected beneficiaries in the villages investigated was 10.9.

(ii) Additional income generated during 1978-79 over the previous year in the sample villages varied from Rs. 23 to Rs. 1569 per selected household. The extent of additional income generated over the last year ranged from 1.4 per cent to 97 per cent. The overall percentage increase for all the selected households in the villages was 17.7.

(iii) Various types of community assets were created under the programme some of which were, however, not durable, for example, construction of link roads and embankment work. In regard to creation of individual assets, the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction may examine such cases in the light of the policy of the Planning Commission.

(iv) 3.7 lakh mandays employment was created in the selected villages. In individual district this ranged from 535 mandays in Raisen (Madhya Pradesh) to 46879 mandays in Bhojpur (Bihar).

(v) Community assets worth Rs. 24 lakhs were created during 1978-79 in the selected villages.

(vi) Both Plan and non-Plan Works were taken up under the programme.

(vii) In Bihar, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh there was no agency for maintenance of link roads.

4. Difficulties and Malpractices:

(i) Delays in supply and lack of storage facilities were reported in 5 States.

(ii) Payment of wages fully in cash was reported in some States leading to selling of the foodgrains in the open market by contractors.

(iii) Muster rolls were reported to have been inflated in some selected villages by entering fictitious names, both by contractors and the panchayats.

(iv) Ex-gratia payment was demanded by supervisory staff in two States at the time of distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries. Government agencies and panchayats in two States converted foodgrains into cash for meeting the cost of construction works such as, huts, school buildings, dispensaries panchayat ghar, etc.

(v) The contractors indulged in selling part of foodgrains in open market.

(vi) Less payment of wages was reported from two districts.

(vii) Beneficiaries had to sell out coupons due to delay in supply of foodgrains.

(viii) Foodgrains were utilised for purchase of crockery and furniture and upkeep of Government buildings in one State.

5. Impact of the Programme:

(i) In 13 districts out of 20, there was no significant impact on wages. However, in 7 districts there was a positive impact.

(ii) This programme stabilised foodgrain prices (wheat and rice) in 8 districts out of 20 selected. In 6 districts, local wheat prices fell marginally.

(iii) There was favourable impact on life and living, conditions of the village community in terms of employment and income. Majority of beneficiaries, however, reported that these benefits were only short-term and seasonal.

6. Suggestions for future:

(i) Empty gunny bags at present being retained by the distributing agencies such as contractors, fair price shops, etc., should be handed over to the village panchayat for augmenting their resources.

(ii) Efforts should be made to provide foodgrains preferred by the beneficiaries.

(iii) Looking to the preference of the beneficiaries, the wages should be paid partly in cash and partly in kind.

((iv) Majority of the beneficiaries preferred weekly payments. As such, efforts should be made to make weekly and timely payments in all the areas.

(v) It appears that the inspecting and monitoring arrangements at the Centre for effectively supervising the Food for Work Programme and its implementation are rather weak. Supervision, therefore, needs to be strengthened to avoid creation of non-durable assets.

(vi) There is a need for further research and evaluation on its short and long-term benefits to various sections of rural population.

Release of Salt Land For construction of Road in Bhandup Village of Bombay

220. SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have now finalized their stand on the release of Salt Commissioner's lands for the purpose of building an approach road to Bhandup Village in Bombay; and

(b) if so, the exact details and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have agreed in principle to transfer the salt lands at Bhandup Village in Bombay to the Bombay Municipal Corporation subject to the condition that the market value of the land determined on the date of transfer will be paid by the Corpora-

tion and such compensation as is due to the licencees of the Salt Works will also be paid by the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Utilisation of Heavy Water imported from U.S.S.R.

221. SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the heavy water imported from the USSR has been utilized in any of the Indian reactors recently; and

(b) if so, the exact dates from which this utilization commenced?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Discontentment in C.B.I. Officers

222. SHRI JHAR KHANDE RAI: SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a newspaper report about the discontent in the CBI and protest by a large number of officers in respect of some of their grievances; and

(b) if so, what exactly are the grievances and what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b). A few reports published in the newspapers relating to the CBI staff have come to the notice of the Government. The earlier reports in June 1979 related to the desire and expectation of the CBI staff in regard to improvement in their service conditions. The later reports related to an apprehension among the investigating officers in the CBI following the incident of 29-1-80 involving Shri N. K. Singh, former DIG, CBI.