(ग) यदि हां, तो गत वर्ष अनाज की भली-भांति देखभाल न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश सिंह बादल): (क) 1977-78 रबी विपणन मौसम की नई नीति के अधीन वसूली मुख्यत: समर्थन मूल्य के रूप में की जाती हैं और एक राज्य से दूसरे राज्य में गेहूं के लाने ले जाने पर पर कोई भी प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है । अत: वसूल की जाने वाली सम्भावित मात्रा का अनुमान लगाना कठिन है ।

(ख) जी नहीं । खाद्यान्नों को अच्छी हालत में रखने के लिए अधिक से अधिक सावधानी बरती जा रही है । तथापि, भारी वर्षा, बाढ़ों, तूफानों आदि जैसी दैवी विपदाओं, जो कि मनुष्य के वश से बाहर हैं, से भी विशेषकर "कैप" भण्डारण (कवर तथा प्लिथ स्टोरेज) में खाद्यान्नों को क्षति पहुंचती है ।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Education for weaker sections of society

147. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stressed the need for a vigorous programme to ensure that the benefits of education reach the weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b). The suecessive Plans have emphasised acceleration in the provision of educational facilities for the weaker sections of the society and in educationally backward areas. An Educational Survey was conducted in the courtry as a whole to determine the facilities available for education at school level and to identify areas and habitations which require such facilities. These will include backward areas and deprived sections of the population. The programmes aiming at universalisation of elementary education are primarily designed to cater to the needs of girls, socially and economically under-privileged sections of population and backward areas. The provisions for elementary education in the State Plans are earmarked.

Incentives like mid-day meals, free uniforms, textbooks and stationery, attendence scholarships are advocated to attract and retain in schools students from the weaker sections of the population. These programmes are administered by State Government.

The Central Government administers a scheme of rural scholarships covering bright students from rural areas on means-*cum*-merit basis.

The Ministry of Home Affairs operates a number of schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Tribes such as assistance for girls' hostels, post-matric scholarships and pre and post-matric scholarships for children of those engaged in unclean occupations like scavenging, sweeping etc. Integrated tribal development projects have been initiated with a view to promote alround development including education in tribal areas.

The University Grants Commission has formulated schemes to assist development of colleges in backward areas which cater to the requirements of weaker sections of the population. Book banks of text-books are opened in colleges and schools to assist the weaker sections.

The Nehru Yuvak Kendras are organising programmes of non-formal education such as adult literacy,

functional literacy, rural sports etc., aimed at the weaker sections in rural areas. The Central Government are also organising non-formal education programme for the youth in the age group 15—25 and functional literacy programme for farmers in collaboration with the States.

Upper Indravati Project

149. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upper Indravati Project in Orissa has been cleared by the Central Water and Power Commission and by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission; and

(b) how many acres of land it will irrigate and how much power is to be generated and its total cost?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PARKASH SINGH BADAL): (a) The Upper Indravati Project was considered by the Technical Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 18th December, 1976. The Committee considered that the project needed more detailed studies with regard to certain technical and other aspects. The project has since been visited by a Member of the Central Water Commission and the State Government has been advised to carry out further investigations and to suitably modify the project report.

(b) The project report as prepared by the State Government envisages annual irrigation of 2.19 lakh hectares and generation of 227 MW of power at 100 per cent load factor. The project is presently estimated to cost Rs. 208.14 crores.

बेतवा बोर्ड

150. **श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक :** क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा बेतवा बोर्ड के गठन के बाद इसकी कितनी बैठकें हुई और ये बैठकें किस-किस तारीख को तथा किस किस स्थान पर हुई ;

(ख) इन बैठकों में क्या निर्णय किए गए और क्या इन में से किन्हीं निर्णयों के बारे में कोई कार्यवाही शुरू की गई है ; और

(ग) मध्य प्रदेश में ऐसी कितनी और कौन-कौन सी सिंचाई योजनाओं पर निर्माण-कार्य हो रहा है जिसके लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने धनराशि दी है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश सिंह बादल): (क) बेतवा नदी बोर्ड 25 अक्तूबर, 1976 से गठित किया गया है । बोर्ड के गठन के बाद उसकी कोई बैठक आयोजित करना संभव नहीं हुआ है । तथापि केन्द्रीय कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में 12 सितम्बर, 1976 को नई दिल्ली में बोर्ड के सदस्यों की एक बैठक हुई थी ।

(ख) उपर्युक्त बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय संलग्न विवरण में दिए गए हैं । इन निर्णयों पर आवश्यक कार्रवाई शुरू कर दी गई है ।

(ग) सिंचाई राज्य विषय है और सिंचाई परियोजनाएं राज्य सरकारों द्वारा कार्यान्वित की जाती हैं । केन्द्रीय सहायता समूची योजना के लिए ब्लाक ऋणों और अनुदानों के रूप मे दी जाती हैं तथा इस सहायता का किसी विशिष्ट स्कीम या विकास क्षेत्र से संबंध नहीं होता ।

विवरण

(1) 17-8-76 को नई दिल्ली में केन्द्रीय कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री की अध्यक्षता