

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDEB): (a) and (b) The Government are not giving scholarships on the consideration of caste except to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Students. However, the economic backwardness in the form of income of parents, is taken into consideration in respect of some of the National Scholarship Schemes. There is no proposal under consideration to modify the present arrangements.

Cultivation of Coconuts in Coastal areas

1633 **SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigations have been conducted into the feasibility of adopting the coastal areas at Kanyakumari Distt in Tamil Nadu State for the extensive and intensive cultivation of coconuts and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction to mobilise the areas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Government of Tamil Nadu and the same will be placed on the table of the House as soon as possible.

Employment of Casual Labourers in Farakka Barrage Project

1634 **SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Farakka Barrage Project employ and maintains Muster Roll for labourers who are generally described as casual labour,

(b) whether the break in services for one day or two days of these

labourers are shown with a view to continuing their character as temporary,

(c) whether a large number of workers employed in Farakka Project are working as casual labour for the last five to ten years without any benefit to which a permanent incumbent is entitled, and

(d) what steps are being considered for remedying this situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) In the Farakka Barrage Project, the Muster Roll staff are employed on jobs of casual nature and also for seasonal work done departmentally. These Muster Roll staff are not regular Government employees and their services are retained according to the requirements of works.

(c) There are few Muster Roll employees who have been engaged in different works of the project for more than three years with some breaks.

(d) While filling up regular and work-charged posts in the Farakka Barrage Project the Muster Roll employees are also considered for employment.

Laying of Sewer and Waterlines in DDA Janakpuri Colony

1635 **SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether residents of Janakpuri Colony of Delhi have urged the DDA & Corporation authorities to provide a new sewer and waterline for the colony as major Jaundice epidemic is likely to brew in the colony for want of sewerage system, and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in setting up the new sewer and water-line and the necessary actions taken against the officials responsible for the delay?