

than Library Science might be considered for placement in the Reader's and Lecturer's scale and D.P.Es. with Master's degree in Physical Education in the Lecturers' grade. Those who did not possess these qualifications would continue in the appropriate revised scale recommended for them.

(f). The main demand made by Librarians and D.P.Es. was for parity in pay scales with teaching staff. As this demand was not accepted by the U.G.C., Government was of the view that there was no justification for reopening the matter.

Conference of Irrigation Ministers to Review Irrigation Programmes under Implementation

160. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of Irrigation Ministers of the State Government was held in New Delhi in September, 1978 to review the irrigation programme under implementation and identify the constraints hampering speedy implementation of irrigation schemes and suggest various operational/administrative and financial measures for speedy and proper execution of irrigation projects not only for creation of additional irrigational potential but for its actual use for irrigation purposes by simultaneous execution of C.A.D. plans;

(b) if so, details of important policy decision taken in the conference; and

(c) the follow up action taken/proposed to implement the decisions and the nature of central set-up proposed to ensure proper coordination and monitoring of the project?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJET SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Conference of State

Ministers in-charge of minor irrigation and command area development (CAD) was held in September 1978 to review the minor irrigation and command area development programmes, to identify and discuss the problems and constraints presently faced in the implementation of these programmes and to suggest specific measures for improving and accelerating the implementation of these programmes.

(b) The important policy decisions taken at the Conference are summarised below:—

A. Minor Irrigation

1. The target of creating net additional irrigation potential of 9 million ha. from minor irrigation schemes during the mid-term plan (1978—83) will be within the realm of achievement and around concerted efforts should be made to achieve this target.

2. Efforts should be made to achieve maximum step-up in the flow of institutional investment through simplification and streamlining of procedures, organising and sustaining drives for improved recovery position, organising local campaigns for on-the-spot clearance of applications, etc.

3. Efforts should be made to fully realise and even exceed the target of energisation of 20 lakh pumpsets set for the mid-term plan by making full use of the participative programme of the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation (ARDC) and Commercial Banks recently introduced, earmarking certain minimum percentage of power generated from new projects exclusively for agriculture purposes and achieving greater coordination between the financing and the implementing agencies.

4. The planning execution and maintenance of minor irrigation works should be improved by undertaking specific measures in the identified areas.

5. Emphasis should be laid on quick completion of minor irrigation works, by undertaking a limited number of projects at a time—maximum use may be made for the Food for Works Programme to complete the on-going works.

6. Command area approach may also be applied to minor irrigation works to improve their utilisation.

7. The Minor Irrigation programme may be oriented in favour of weaker sections of community by encouraging group works and public tubewells (in areas where there is preponderance of small farmers) and by taking full advantage of the facility of subsidy for small and marginal farmers which has been extended to all the areas.

8. The field organisations responsible for minor irrigation works should be strengthened, and adequate machinery should be set up at the State level for more vigorous monitoring and coordination of the programme.

B. Command Area Development (CAD)

1. Concerted efforts should be made to accelerate the command area development programme which is vitally important for expeditious and efficient utilisation of irrigation potential and optimising production benefits from irrigated agriculture.

2. The pace of execution of on-farm development works should be significantly stepped up by strengthening the field units and streamlining the flow of institutions' finance.

3. Maximum priority needs to be given for construction of field channels to make available irrigation water to the individual fields and with this objective in view, outlets to serve blocks upto 40 ha. should be provided at project cost as per Planning Commission's directive, and field channels upto each holding should be constructed by the State Government at their costs.

4. Consolidation of holdings should be given priority for scientific execution of On-Farm Development (OFD) works and if this is not likely to be feasible, at least a minimum programme of realignment of field boundaries should be taken up.

5. While giving emphasis for execution of OFD works other items of the CAD package like warabandi, crop planning, agricultural extension, supply of inputs, supplemental irrigation through ground water, construction of roads and markets etc. also need to be given urgent attention.

6. Modernisation of irrigation projects and construction of drainage net work should be given priority and adequate funds should be earmarked in the State Plan under the Irrigation Sector for these works.

7. For handling the CAD programme which is of complex nature, it is vitally important that the organisational infrastructure at the project and the State level should be adequately strengthened and senior level officers may be placed in-charge of the programme.

(c) Follow up action on the decisions taken at the Conference will be actively monitored by minor irrigation and CAD Divisions in the Union Department of Agriculture by asking for periodical reports which will be

critically reviewed and through discussions, regular field visits, regional meetings, etc.

Adult Education Programme

161. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL:

SHRI VINAYAK PRASAD YADAV:

SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a programme on adult education during the current year;

(b) if so, details of programme containing administrative set up, financial provision, number of persons to be partly employed and their rate of remuneration with estimate of financial outlay for the current year and the next 3 years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) what is the number and names of voluntary organisations which have offered to implement the programme in various States, and the areas proposed by these institutions under the programme and finally decided by the Ministry so far;

(d) whether some of the voluntary organisations who have offered to participate in the programme in various States on a large scale have not been finally allowed to operate and the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any representation against the participation by some Agency has been received by Government, if so, details of the action/decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the programme are given in the Summary of the Re-

port of the Working Group on Adult Education for medium-term Plan 1978-83, copies of which are available in Parliament House Library.

(c) A list of Voluntary Agencies which are on the Grants-in-aid list has separately been furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 1 dated 20-11-1978.

(d) and (e). It has been decided that organisations of the following types may not be provided financial assistance under the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Agencies working in the field of Adult Education:

- political parties and the various mass organisations of women, youth, workers and peasants;
- All-India cultural, religious and youth organisations; and
- federations/associations of teachers, students, trade and industry.

The political parties and the other organisations of these categories are expected to contribute in creation of awareness among the people towards this mass programme and in motivating the instructors and the learners. Organisations of the above-referred categories who made requests for financial assistance have been informed on these lines.

Financial aid to Flood and Cyclone Affected States

162. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of assistance, financial and physical, given by Government to the States affected by floods and cyclone during the last three years, including current year;

(b) the principles governing such assistance; and