

MINOR IRRIGATION

***392. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Grow More Food Enquiry Committee had made a recommendation of an additional sum to make provision for undertaking a special programme of minor irrigation for three years between 1952-53, 1953-54, to 1955-56;

(b) whether any sum has since been sanctioned;

(c) if so, how much; and

(d) the places (States) where they are now being utilised?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 635.84 lakhs in 1952-53 and Rs. 627.25 lakhs in 1953-54 upto 19-11-53.

(d) Two statements giving particulars of the schemes sanctioned in the various States during 1952-53 and 1953-54 are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 55.]

Shri Amjad Ali: With reference to part (a), may I know the total amount sanctioned for this purpose?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is Rs. 10 crores every year for the Plan period.

Shri Amjad Ali: For how many years will it be given?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: For three years more.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the various States have been asked to levy a special cess or betterment fee in order to make up the capital expenditure on these minor irrigation schemes?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: In some cases, they are asked to levy. The position is that the State Governments will be given a loan out of these amounts. They have to pay back the

loan in instalments within a period ranging from five years to fifteen years. As they have to pay back, we have asked them to levy a betterment fee or any cess according to the local convenience.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any relaxations have been made in the rules relating to the re-payment of advances made for construction of minor irrigation works?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Not to my knowledge.

Shri Amjad Ali: May I know the basis on which the grants are allocated to different States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The question will be considered on merits. Every State's requirements are considered and scrutinised and these schemes are sanctioned.

BHADSON PROJECT

***393. Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many acres of uncultivable land have so far been reclaimed in the Bhadson Project area?

(b) In how many villages of the Project has the work of consolidation of holdings been undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) 2523 acres.

(b) 133 villages.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know whether the work of consolidation is becoming more popular, or is it being opposed by the villagers?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It depends upon the particular cases. In some cases, where the co-operation of the villagers is more, they gladly do it. In many places the villagers are conservative and there it will be a difficult proposition.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know what steps Government is taking to