

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) The news item under reference appeared in the *Times of India*, New Delhi, dated June 29, 1980. According to the information furnished by the Central Bureau of Investigation, the case reported in the column of the Press falls under the jurisdiction of the Government of Karnataka.

No detailed information of the case is available with the Archaeological Survey of India, as the objects seized by the Police of Karnataka have not been produced before the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, who under the Antiquities & Art Treasures Act, 1972 is a final authority to decide whether the objects are antiquities or not.

(b) and (c). Antique Cell has been created and established in the Central Bureau of Investigation. They have since informed that no such study has been made by them in this regard.

To prevent thefts of antiquities from the centrally protected monuments the watch-and-ward staff has been augmented at the monuments and armed police guards have been posted at selected monuments.

Drinking Water

5802. **SHRI KAMAKRISHNA MORE:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the plan outlay for providing drinking water facilities to villages in India; and

(b) in what phases Government propose to complete these works?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) Provision of drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Governments and funds are allocated in the State plans for executing the schemes for providing drinking water

in both urban and rural areas. A centrally sponsored scheme for accelerated rural water supply is being operated by the Government of India. The budget provision for this scheme in the current year is Rs. 100 crores.

The Sixth Plan for 1980—85 is being revised and the proposals for the water supply sector of the Plan are under preparation.

(b) The target at present is to provide drinking water supply to the people living in identified problem villages during the Sixth Plan period (1980—85).

Amendment Sought in Orissa Land Reforms Act

5803. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:** Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Ministry sought clarification from the Government of Orissa regarding some new amendments in Orissa Land Reforms Act;

(b) if so, the nature of amendments thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa replied to the Ministry on these points;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) how far the said amendments fulfill the objectives of the Land Reform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is appended.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The State Government has been informed that the Government of India will agree to the Bill if clause 4 of the Bill is deleted and clause 5 is modified in the manner suggested. The other amendments are in accord with the National Guidelines.