

### Guidelines in Food-For-Work Programme

1894. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government had at any stage issued any guidelines being followed by the State Governments for the use of grants for Food-for-Work

(b) if so, what and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what machinery has been provided to check optimal returns from the Food-for-Work programme in terms of employment and incomes as well as creation of durable assets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) and (b). Necessary guidelines for implementation of the Food for Work Programme were issued in 1978. Copies of the same are available in Parliament Library. Some modifications to these guidelines were carried out from time to time subsequently. The Food for Work Programme having now been replaced by National Rural Employment Programme, revised guidelines were issued in October, 1980. A copy of these guidelines is also laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1481/80].

(c) Monitoring and supervision of the programme to obtain the optimum results is the basic responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been deputationing officers for on the spot study of the programme in the States.

### Telephone Exchange in Punjab

1895 SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Telephone Exchanges in Punjab which will be automatized and provided with S.T.D. facilities during the current and next year; and

(b) what effective steps have been or are being taken to improve the existing services in the commercial towns like Amritsar, Ludhiana and Jullundur not only in the sphere of local calls but also trunk calls, overseas calls, Telex operations and other allied fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) During current financial year:

Ropar and Faridkot exchanges are being automatized. Faridkot is proposed to be provided with STD. During 1981-82:

None.

(b) (i) The expansion of telephone and telex exchanges has been planned.

(ii) The overhead lines are being replaced by underground cables

(iii) Underground cables are being pressurized.

(iv) The coaxial, microwave and UEE systems are being planned around these cities to meet the growing requirements of trunk traffic.

### Exploration of Areas for Production of Plywood Outside Assam

1896. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assam normally contributes 70-80 per cent of the total production of Plywood within the country;

(b) whether due to the blockade of lifting of plywood from that State by the long agitation has resulted in the shooting up of the prices of plywood in the rest of the country; and

(c) if so, the steps which Government propose to take to explore some other suitable areas for the production