

lower than that in 1978-79 season. With the expiry of the voluntary price regulation scheme which was in operation from 1st September to 15th November 1980, there was a rise in sugar prices in open market during 2nd fortnight of November 1980 as expected but with the picking up of the sugar production and increasing supplies in the market the prices of free sale sugar have already started declining and are expected to settle down at reasonable levels in due course.

(b) The figures of sugar production in the current season upto 22nd November mentioned against (a) above, would show that as compared to last year there is no fall in sugarcane supply to the sugar factories this year on account of undue diversion of cane to gur and khandsari units.

(c) and (d). It is not a fact that many sugar factories closed down for want of sugarcane. The number of sugar factories working in the current 1980-81 season as on 30th November were 191 as against 169 on the same date in 1979-80 season.

Telephone and Telecommunication Services in Bihar

2854. SHRI HARI NATH MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telecommunications in Bihar continues to be in a bad shape;

(b) whether it is also a fact that telephones remain dead for several days mainly because of (i) lack of proper maintenance, (ii) faults are not promptly attended; and

(c) what steps do the Government propose to improve the working of telecommunication in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No Sir, it is not a fact that telecommunication service in Bihar continue to be in a bad shape. However, the service

during the last summer months had been affected due to heavy power shortage. This position has improved with the improvement of power supply since November, 1980.

(b) No, Sir. The number of faults is not excessive and they are cleared in about 3.5 hours on an average.

(c) Stand-by engine alternators have been arranged for all the 31 District Headquarters and 12 other major towns. Efforts are being made to arrange stand-by engine alternators for many other exchanges also.

Training Centres under Training of Rural Youths for Self Employment

2855. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) how many training centres are functioning under the Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) in the various States; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of training centres in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) Training centres functioning under the National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) in the various States include all institutions run by the Central Government and its agencies, State Governments and their agencies, Universities and also private industrial houses, voluntary agencies, charitable trusts etc. which have the requisite expertise and infrastructure for imparting training. All training infrastructure existing in the country can be availed of under the scheme.

(b) TRYSEM visualises grant of assistance by the Central and State Governments for strengthening of existing training infrastructure and not for creation of new training centres, except

in certain circumstances. All institutions which impart or are capable of imparting training to rural youth in any vocation leading to self-employment are eligible for assistance for strengthening their training capabilities. During the year 1979-80, proposals for a total amount of Rs. 277.550 lakhs were approved for strengthening of infrastructure. Out of it, a sum of Rs. 138.775 lakhs was released to Central agencies and State Governments. The balance amount will be released after the satisfactory progress in expenditure. For the year 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 29.587 lakhs has so far been approved for strengthening of infrastructure. Out of this Rs. 15.288 lakhs is being released to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

**Obsolete telephone exchanges in
Monoghyr District of Bihar**

2856. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the telephone exchanges at Barahiya, Barbigha, Sheikhpura in Monoghyr District (Bihar) have become obsolete and there is complete break down of the communication system in that area; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to improve telephone facilities speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir. The exchanges are not obsolete. There have, however, been frequent break-downs in service due to prolonged power shedding.

(b) Action is being taken to increase capacities of batteries at Barbigha and Sheikhpura to provide standby power for longer duration. The only lasting solution will be to ensure continuous supply from public power mains.

**Death of a student in pond of
Cathedral Nursery School,
New Delhi**

2857. SHRI CHHOTY SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VASUDAV ACHARYA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Nehar Verma Alias Bobby aged 4 years died accidentally in the pond of Cathedral Nursery School, Church Road, New Delhi on 12th November, 1980 due to negligence of the staff during school hours;

(b) whether Government propose to take action in this regard; if not the reason therefor; and

(c) how this family will be compensated?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) According to the report received from the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, Nehar Verma Alias Bobby, aged 4 years died accidentally due to drowning in the pond located in the garden of the residence of the padri of the Cathedral Church, adjacent to the Cathedral Nursery School, Church Road, New Delhi, on 12-11-1980. No culpable negligence of the staff has been found.

(b) and (c). As the death of the child was accidental, Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

**Seniority of employees transferred
from Farakka Barrage Project**

2858. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the seniority of Farakka Barrage Project employees transferred to different organisation specially in Ganga Basin Water Resources Organisation (now merged with C.W.C.) is proposed to be maintained from their date of appointment in Farakka Barrage Project; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?