

on the date of the commencement of the construction as provided in the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958.

Dringing water scheme for West Bengal

830. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that under the Rural Water Supply Scheme, a proposal has been sanctioned at Sultanpur, P.S. Mandirbazar, District 24 Parganas, West Bengal;

(b) if so, how many villages and population have been covered up under the said proposal;

(c) when the construction work was taken up; and

(d) how far the construction work has been completed and what is the probable date of supplying water to the villages concerned?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Five villages have been covered. Information regarding coverage of population is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(c) 1977-78.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Inchampalli Dam

831. SHRI SANTARAM POT-DUKHE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the loss to the Maharashtra State in terms of submission of fertile land rare animal species, Mineral Deposits, Forest Wealth as a result of the Inchampalli Dam Project;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted about the extent and variety of mineral deposits in the region that would be submerged and whether it will be possible to extract this mineral

wealth before the region is submerged under water;

(c) how many villages would be submerged under water and what would be the Adivasi population that would be affected thereby, and what are the proposed plans for their rehabilitation;

(d) what is the nature of representations against the proposed dam site at Inchampalli; and

(e) whether the Government of Maharashtra have represented on this issue and if so, its nature?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Government of Maharashtra have reported that, as per the feasibility report prepared by the Andhra Pradesh Government in May, 1980, the total submergence of land in Maharashtra due to the construction of Inchampalli Project will be 39,333 ha., of which about 14,000 hectares will be cultivable land. The State Government have further intimated that detailed investigations for rare animal species, mineral deposits and forest wealth which will be lost by submergence from Inchampalli Project are yet to be carried out.

(b) A preliminary surface survey for mineral resources in the submergence area of Inchampalli reservoir has recently been carried out by the Geological Survey of India, Nagpur. The possibilities of economic exploitations of the mineral deposits as well as the possibilities for extraction would be known only after sub-surface explorations, which are yet to be taken up.

(c) The Government of Maharashtra have intimated that 61 villages of Maharashtra would come under submergence affecting a population of 27,400 persons, of which about 50 per cent would be the Adivasi population.

Proposals for rehabilitation are still being formulated by the State Government.

(d) In the representations received, it has been mentioned that the proposed would submerge large deposits of mine-

rals, large areas in Maharashtra, the Nasik-Jagdapur National Highway, Kaleshwar Temple and Wali Hyder Dargah. It has been suggested in these representations that the height of the dam may be reduced and the dam site may be shifted downstream of the present site to minimise the submergence.

(e) No representation in this regard has been received from the Government of Maharashtra.

Supply of Wheat

832. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether inspite of good rains the acute shortage of wheat is at present prevailing in many parts of the country and only *atta* is being supplied in the fair price shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): Keeping in view the stock position of wheat and to bring down the pressure on wheat it was suggested to the State Governments that *atta* might be issued through fair price shops in lieu of wheat. This was expected to bring down the consumption of wheat as *atta* is difficult to store over a long period. Some of the State Governments have favoured the suggestion while others have not.

Letter Addressed by Chief Minister of West Bengal Regarding Utilization of Foodgrains

833. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Minister of West Bengal has sent a letter to the President of India as well as Union Minister of Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction that the matter in regard to utilisation of foodgrains in West Bengal under the food for

work programme be referred to the Supreme Court of India under article 143 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the action so far taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of West Bengal addressed a letter to the President dated 3rd December, 1980 and to the Union Minister of Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction dated 31st October, 1980. In the letter written to the President of India a request was made for a reference to the Supreme Court of India under Article 143 of the Constitution. But no such request was made in the letter addressed to Minister for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction. The Government has examined the whole position and found that at no time the utilisation certificates submitted by the West Bengal Government aggregated to more than 50 per cent of total foodgrains released to the West Bengal Government under the Food-for-Work/National Rural Employment Programme, during the current year. The matter which related purely to arithmetical calculations was carefully considered in consultation with the Ministry of Law and the view taken was that the case did not involve any question of public importance and, therefore, did not deserve the exercise of powers vested in the President under Article 143 of the Constitution for making a reference to the Supreme Court.

Reservation of Job Quota for Disabled Persons

834. SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Conference of Social Welfare Ministers held, recently in the capital has suggested for re-