

quantities of coal being moved under these categories.

National Biological Research Institute

901. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Chuni Lal:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 642 on the 8th March, 1961 and state:

(a) the details of the scheme for establishment of the National Biological Research Institute; and

(b) the nature of progress made so far in its establishment?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Details of the scheme for the National Biological Laboratory have not yet been worked out.

Working of Multi-purpose Tribal Blocks

902. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Chuni Lal:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Amar Singh Damar:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1109 on the 8th March, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report on the working of the various multi-purpose tribal blocks; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The Government of India have considered the recommendations of the Committee with regard to the limitation and allocation of T.D. Blocks in the country. It has been decided to start about 300 T.D. Blocks in the Third Plan in the whole country, each block having an area of about 200 sq. miles, with a total population of

roughly 25,000 and concentration of tribal population of 66-2/3 or more of the total population. The phasing of the allotment of T.D. Blocks during the Third Plan would be 10 per cent., 10 per cent., 20 per cent., 25 per cent. and 35 per cent. in the first, second, third, fourth and fifth year respectively. In the year 1961-62 it is proposed to start 35 T.D. blocks in the country.

The recommendations made in the Report not only covered the working of S.M.P.T. blocks, measures to improve their working and suggestions for starting more blocks during the Third Plan but also many other matters relating to the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in general including various administrative, developmental and legislative matters. Most of the administrative and legislative measures suggested in this Report are within the purview of the State Governments.

The State Governments and the concerned Ministries at the Centre have been requested to examine the recommendations and take action in the relevant fields. Final decisions regarding action on some of the recommendations made in the Elwin Committee's Report will be taken after the report of the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission becomes available.

Criteria for Backward Classes

903 { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Chuni Lal:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1113 on the 7th March, 1961, and state the further progress since made in fixing the criteria for the determination of backward classes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): The Government of India have decided not to draw up any all-India list of backward classes. It has been left to the discretion of the State Governments to choose their own criteria for defin-