

(b) and (c). The Government of West Bengal have submitted a feasibility report for setting up a 240 MW Thermal Power Station in North Bengal at an estimated cost of about Rs. 45. crores, at any one of the alternate sites of Khejuriaighat old Malda.

The power station will comprise of installation of two sets of 120 MW each, annual salable energy being of the order of 1033 million kwh

The station is intended to cater to the load demands arising from general, industrial and agricultural consumers in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Cooch Behar, Malda, West Dinajpur and Murshidabad; and to North Bihar with which grid it will be interconnected. Among other things, this will cater to the needs of the tubewells and pumps also.

**Sending of Bangla Desh Displaced Persons to Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

4279. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have come to a final decision to send 50,000 Bangla Desh displaced persons to Andaman and Nicobar group of islands as proposed earlier; and

(b) if so, how soon the same will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) It is presumed that the question refers to the new migrants from East Pakistan who came during the period prior to 25.3. 1971. It is estimated that in all about 6,000 families (about 30,000 persons) of East Pakistan migrants and repatriates from other countries can be settled in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands initially as the requisite land can be cleared.

(b) As soon as the requisite land is cleared and the infra-structure of the islands is strengthened the estimated number of families will be settled. No time schedule as such has been laid down for this purpose.

**Complaints regarding supply of Bad Quality of Rice to Coochbehar**

4280. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Food Corporation of India supplied rice to the people of Coochbehar in the month of March and April last, which were regarded as unfit for human consumption and serious complaints were lodged against Officers of the Food Corporation at Coochbehar ;

(b) what steps have been taken against those Officers in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct large size F.C.I. godowns at Coochbehar and whether the office personnel will be increased to meet the local demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the West Bengal Government and the Food Corporation of India and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Rate of Interest on Employees Provident Fund**

4281. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : SHRI R. P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a very low rate of interest (i.e. 5.8. per cent) has been allowed by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation on the Provident Funds accumulations of the subscribers ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The administration of the Employees' Provident Fund is the concern of the Central Board of Trustees set up under the Employees'

Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 and is not the direct concern of the Government of India. The Provident Fund authorities have intimated as under:-

(a) to (c). The rate of interest declared for credit to the accounts of the members of the Fund in unexempted establishments for the year 1971-72, is 5.8%. This rate cannot be regarded as a very low rate. The declaration of this rate has been made possible by the progressive liberalisation in the investment of Provident Fund accumulations over the past several years. It is proposed to keep the pattern of investment under continuous review with a view to its further liberalisation.

मध्य प्रदेश के होशंगाबाद और पूर्व निमाड़ जिलों के लिए विकास योजनायें

4282. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में मध्य प्रदेश के होशंगाबाद और पूर्व निमाड़ जिलों के विकास के लिए सरकार ने क्या-क्या योजनाये लागू की है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने उक्त जिलों के विकास के लिए चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कुछ योजनायें बनाई हैं ; और यदि हां, तो उनकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार का विचार उक्त जिलों के विकास के लिए कुछ योजनायें बनाने का है ?

कृषि मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शेर सिंह) :  
(क) से (ग). गत तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तुत की गई जानकारी के अनुसार लघु सिंचाई तथा जल उपयोग एवं नलकूपों के निर्माण की योजनायें होशंगाबाद जिले में ; कपास पैकेज योजना पूर्वी निमाड़ जिले में तथा मृदा एवं जल संरक्षण, ट्रैक्टरीकरण, वनस्पति रक्षण और अधिक उर्वरक सघन कृषि क्षेत्र कार्यक्रम की योजनायें इन दोनों जिलों में क्रियान्वित की गई हैं। ताबा आयकट के लिए

प्रस्तावित नई योजनाओं तथा इन दोनों जिलों में सघन बहुफसली खेती ; होशंगाबाद जिले में कृषक प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र ; एवं पूर्वी निमाड़ जिले में नलकूप निर्माण तथा बहुदेशीय विकास के अतिरिक्त, ये योजनायें चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में जारी रखी जा रही है।

वर्ष 1970 और 1971 में राज्यों को एलाट की गई तथा सप्लाई की गई चीनी और खाद्यान्न की मात्रा

4283. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि केन्द्र सरकार ने वर्ष 1970 और 1971 में राज्यों को चीनी, खाद्यान्न की कितनी-कितनी मात्रा अलाट की थी तथा वास्तव में कितनी मात्रा की सप्लाई की गई थी ?

कृषि मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शेर सिंह) : वर्ष, 1970 के दौरान तथा वर्ष, 1971 में अब तक केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्यों को निम्नलिखित मात्रा में खाद्यान्न तथा चीनी आबंटित तथा सप्लाई किया था :—

(लाख मी० टन में)

| वर्ष          | आबंटित मात्रा       | सप्लाई की गई/ भेजी गई मात्रा |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) खाद्यान्न | 1970 90.04          | 66.82                        |
|               | 1971 40.59          | 21.63 (मई, 1971 तक)          |
| (ii) चीनी     | 1970 लेवी 30.0      | } ???                        |
|               | खुली बिक्री 15.3    |                              |
|               | 1971 लेवी 9.7 ?     |                              |
|               | खुली बिक्री 14.8 ?? |                              |

? अप्रैल-मई, 1971 तक का कोटा।  
25-5-71 से चीनी के मूल्यों, वितरण