

Bonus Act 1965 were received against some of the collieries.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the names of the collieries against whom prosecutions were launched for non-payment of bonus in the accounting years 1968 and 1969 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-438/17]

#### Views of States on Land Reforms Bill

2443. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have invited the views of the States regarding the Land Reforms Bill ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Production of Steel

2445. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the demand for each category of steel in India during 1969-70 and 1970-71 and the anticipated demand for the current year ; and

(b) the quantity and value of production of each category of steel during 1969-70 and 1970-71 and the target for production for the current year ;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The Steering Group on Iron and Steel set up by the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Engineering, had estimated the domestic demand of finished steel at 5.0 million tonnes in 1969-70, 5.5 million tonnes in 1970-71 and at 6.05 million tonnes in 1971-72.

The category-wise break up of demand has been estimated by the National Council of Applied Economic Research for 1970-71, and by the Steel Group on Iron and Steel, for 1973-74. Two statements giving the two estimates are laid on the

Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-439/17]

Since these estimates become somewhat out of date, fresh estimates for demand of steel are being prepared.

(b) Information regarding the quantity and value of production of each category of steel during 1969-70 and 1970-71 by the main producers is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

The estimated production of finished steel by the main producers in 1971-72 is expected to be about 5 million tonnes.

#### Cotton Cultivation in West Bengal

2446. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether cultivation of cotton has been given top priority in West Bengal during the Fourth Five Year Plan period :

(b) if so, the total allocation under this head ;

(c) the results of the experimental cotton cultivation in the Sunderbans in 1969-70 and 1970-71 ;

(d) the programme for cotton cultivation in the Sunderbans South 24 Parganas for the current year ; and

(e) the total allocation on the account for the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) After initial trials conducted during 1969-70, a demonstration programme on cultivation of cotton was taken up in Rice fallows of Sunderbans area in West Bengal in 1970-71 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. It is proposed to expand the area under cotton during subsequent years of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(b) A sum of Rs. 14.10 lakhs was sanctioned during 1970-71. Further allocations will be made in the light of the experiences gained from the present demonstrations.

(c) In the demonstration Plots laid out during 1969-70, an average yield of 5 to 10 quintals of *Kapas* per hectare was obtained. During 1970-71, the yield is estimated to be of the order of 4 to 5 quintals of *Kapas* per hectare.

(d) The detailed programme for the current year which will largely depend on the results of the demonstrations carried out during 1970-71 has yet to be formulated.

(e) A sum of Rs. 18.90 lakhs has been provisionally allocated for the current year.

**Central Assistance for cooperative Societies in states and Union Territories**

2447. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Central assistance sanctioned and actually disbursed to each State and Union Territory for the development of various types of cooperative societies from 1968-69 to 1970-71, year-wise ;

(b) the amount of Central assistance actually utilised by each State and Union Territory during the same period ;

(c) whether the amount of Central assistance for the current year has been reduced ; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) and (b). Central assistance to State Governments for schemes falling within the purview of the National Cooperative Development Corporation is released through the Corporation to the State Governments.

Central assistance for other cooperative development schemes in States was released directly by the Department of Cooperation in 1968-69.

During 1969-70 and 1970-71 the Central assistance for centrally sponsored/central sector schemes continued to be disbursed directly by the Department of Cooperation.

However in respect of State Plan scheme other than National Cooperative Development Corporation schemes the Ministry of Finance sanctioned lump-sum grants and loans to the State Governments. Information regarding central assistance allocated and disbursed and utilised is given in the statements laid on the Table of the House, [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-440/71*]

In the case of Union Territories without legislature the entire expenditure on Plan schemes is provided for and met directly from the Central Budget. Hence, the question of central assistance does not arise in their case. As regards Union Territories with legislature the central assistance is given in the form of lump-sum loans and grants to cover the gap in the Plan and Non-plan resources of the Union Territory and is not linked to expenditure on any particular sector of the Plan. Hence no separate central assistance is released for Cooperation schemes in Union Territories with legislature.

(c) and (d). The figures of central assistance for Cooperation schemes for the current year have not been worked out by the Planning Commission so far. The Commission is awaiting information from the State Governments on the outlays being finally retained for different schemes included in the Plan.

**Purchase of Stores**

2448. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of stores purchased indigenously for the Central Government, year-wise from 1968-69 to 1970-71 ;

(b) the shares of small-scale, medium-scale and large-scale industries in the total value of such purchases during the same period ;

(c) the total value of stores purchased from abroad during this period and the value of stores purchased through India Supply Mission, London and India Supply Mission, Washington ; and

(d) the policy of Government with regard to store purchases and whether some articles have been specifically earmarked for