

being incurred on persons engaged in administrative and clerical work such as Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Section Officers, Assistants, Clerks and Class IV Staff ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (YOJANA MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) The expenditure in 1955-56 which was the last year of the First Five Year Plan and 1970-71 is as follows :

1955-56	—	Rs. 39,84,000
1970-71	—	Rs. 1,33,55,000
		(provisional figures)

The substantial increase in the outlay of the subsequent Plans which covered much larger field of development required not only the strengthening of the existing technical Divisions but also warranted the creation of additional units to handle the multi-type complex development problems. Keeping in view the usual growth rate of administrative expenditure over a period of fifteen years, the expenditure on the additional units which had to be added to meet the needs of the subsequent plans and also additional benefits sanctioned by the Government to its employees in the shape of revision of pay scales, repeated revision of dearness allowance, sanctioning of interim relief and other fringe benefits like the Children's Education Allowance, refunds of tuition fees etc., the above increase in the expenditure of the Planning Commission over a period of fifteen years cannot be considered abnormal.

(b) The Planning Commission being an advisory body has to employ not only economists but also specialists in various fields and disciplines like agriculture, engineering, public health, geology, sociology, statistics etc. Since all these officers work for the Plan purposes, they form the hard core. The break-up of the total expenditure is as follows :

1. Hard core of Planners	...	61%
2. Supporting staff for the hard core like stenographers, typists and other staff looking after office records in the technical divisions	...	18%

3. Common services like Library, Hindi section, duplicating section, publications and plan information, maps and charts unit, Messenger system etc.	...	10%
4. Administration and house-keeping jobs	...	11%

Export of Roses through S.T.C.

369. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been great spurt in the export of roses by the State Trading Corporation ;

(b) if so, the value of exports during the current season and the countries to which these were exported ; and

(c) how does the State Trading Corporation make purchases of roses and what price per bloom is paid by it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Export of cut roses is in a developmental stage. The State Trading Corporation exported roses valued at Rs. 710 l.o.b. to London in six trial shipments during November, 1970—February, 1971.

(c) The STC purchases roses directly from growers at a price of Rs. 0.75 per bloom.

Memorandum presented to Prime Minister Re: Old Age Pension to Freedom Fighters

370. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether a memorandum regarding the grant of minimum old age pension of Rs. 150 per month to the freedom fighters has been presented to her ;