

formulated by the Government of India to be implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme from 1972-73.

(b) The relevant information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

The Intensive Jute District Programme has been drawn up for getting immediate results in increasing the production of jute fibre in the country by adopting a concentrated area approach in the selected districts of Murshidabad, Nadia, Cooch Behar, Purnea, Cuttack, Nowgong and Srikakulam which account for about 47% of the country's total jute crop. The strategy for securing additional production will be as under

- (i) To convince the growers about the maximum production potential of jute and mesta, demonstrations on full package of practices would be taken up ;
- (ii) To popularise jute growing under irrigated conditions, demonstration on irrigated jute would be conducted in selected blocks ;
- (iii) Launching motivational campaign to saturate the entire area with recommended dose of inputs and to adopt improved cultural practices including any new technology that might be evolved in future and for this purpose subsidies will be provided on critical inputs
- (iv) To stimulate the flow of credit from the various institutional agencies, particularly cooperatives for enabling the growers to apply recommended dose of inputs. For this purpose the Central Cooperative Banks in these districts will be strengthened.
- (v) Initiation of a drive to regain the jute area lost to paddy in the recent past through adoption of jute-paddy cropping sequence.

The total expenditure involved in this scheme will be of the order of Rs. 5.95 lakhs. Against this the project is expected to yield an

additional production of 3.8 lakh bales of fibre in 1972-73 and 8.80 lakh bales in 1973-74.

Facilities Extended to Adivasis after their conversion to Christianity

1636 **SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH :**
Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a strong feeling regarding the facilities extended to the Adivasis after their conversion into Christianity ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K.S. RAMASWAMY) :

(a) Some Members of Parliament and others took strong objection to the facilities being given to the members of the Scheduled Tribes who profess the Christian faith.

(b) The reasons given by them were that the Scheduled Tribes professing Christianity are socially and economically advanced and may get an unduly large share of the benefits to the detriment of the others.

The Government have taken into account these views and the reactions of the Government will be indicated when the Bill is introduced afresh.

Geo-Hydrological data collected by exploratory Tubewell Organisation in Rajasthan under U.N. Development Programme

1637. **DR KARNI SINGH :**
SHRIMATI KRISHNA
KUMARI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether systematic geo-hydrological data were collected for certain areas in Rajasthan by the Exploratory Tube-well Organisation under United Nations Development (Social Fund) Programme some time back ;

(b) if so, the names of the respective areas ; and

(c) the number of exploratory bore holes sunk by the Exploratory Tube-well Organisation in Rajasthan and how many of them were successful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) (a) : Yes.

Systematic geo-hydrological data collection has been made in different areas of Rajasthan by the Central Ground Water Board under the UNDP (SF) assisted Project during the years 1967-71.

One more UNDP (SF) assisted Project has now been taken up w.e.f April, 71 covering Nagpur, Bikaner, Churu, Jhunjhuna and Sikar districts and the data collection is in progress.

(b) The programme covered an area of 60,000 sq. kms. in the districts of Jalore, Jaisalmer, partly Barmer and Jodhpur. The entire area was covered by general reconnaissance and then four key areas selected for detailed studies. The areas were :

1. Jalore area. (2) Barunda area. (3) Jaisalmer (Lathi) area. (4) Doli Jhanwar-Pal sub area.

(c) Till the end of March 1971, the Central Ground Water Board drilled 192 exploratory boreholes in Rajasthan out of which 44 proved successful. Out of 192, 98 boreholes were drilled under the UNDP (SF) Project and 94 under normal exploration.

ग्रामीण रोजगार योजना पर विचार गोष्ठी

1638. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या फरवरी, 1972 में दिल्ली में ग्रामीण रोजगार योजना पर एक विचार गोष्ठी हुई थी ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसकी मुख्य सिफारिशें क्या थीं ; और

(ग) उन्हें लागू करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री० शेर सिंह) : (क) जी हाँ। 17 से 19 फरवरी, 1972 तक नई दिल्ली में ग्राम रोजगार की त्वरित योजना सम्बन्धी एक सैमीनार-कम-वर्क-शाप हुई थी।

(ख) सैमीनार-कम-वर्क-शाप के मुख्य निष्कर्ष तथा टिप्पणियाँ मन्त्री पटल पर रखी जाती हैं। मन्त्रालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT - 1612/72।

(ग) सैमीनार-कम-वर्क-शाप की टिप्पणियाँ तथा निष्कर्षों को ध्यान में रखते हुए वर्ष 1972-73 के लिए ग्राम रोजगार की त्वरित योजना के मार्गदर्शक सिद्धान्तों में उपयुक्त रूप में संशोधन किया गया है।

Payment of Electricity Bills in respect of Central Ministers

1639. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of electricity bills paid by Government for the bungalows of Central Ministers for 1971-72 ; and

(b) the amount spent on each Minister separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The total amount of electricity bills paid by Government in respect of residential portions of bungalows of Central Ministers for 1971-72 for the period ending January, 1972, upto which bills have been received, is Rs. 87, 922.16.

The Ministers have voluntarily agreed to a monetary ceiling of Rs. 2400/- per annum for free supply of water and electricity in the private portions of their residences. They reimburse to Government any expenditure in excess of this ceiling. The annual ceiling of Rs. 2400/- is applicable for the financial year commencing from the 1st April to the 31st March of the succeeding year and the amount recoverable from the Ministers concerned is billed for at the end of each financial year.