

couple of fires in the engine room. It has been ascertained from the shipping Corporation of India that the vessel was one of the best dry cargo liners of this category on the Register of the Shipping Corporation of India and was being utilised on the India-USA run. Before transfer to Bangladesh, the ship was put under a special survey. This survey was carried out by the Lloyds, the Premier classification Society, in the presence of senior officers of the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation who stayed at Calcutta for this purpose for about a month prior to taking over delivery of the vessel. The ship was taken delivery of by the Chairman of the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation and he had expressed his satisfaction over the ship. The reported peeling of paint, non-functioning of pumps and small fires in the engine room are by themselves very small incidents that can happen on any ship. The Shipping Corporation of India, however, sent its engineers to Colombo to look into these small things and to set them right if so required. The ship was, therefore, again surveyed by the Lloyds and they passed it again. In fact, no less a person than Mr. A. N. Hamidullah, Governor of the Bank of Bangladesh dismissed the criticism over the supply of this ship as just "so much noise."

Long-term Loans to Economically Weaker sections of the Society for Construction of Houses

1116. SHRI FATEH SINGH RAO
GAEKWAD

SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population in the metropolitan cities living in one-room tenements;

(b) the total shortage of dwelling units at present in the country;

(c) the rates at which the availability and shortage of the dwelling units have been growing;

(d) whether Government propose to advance long term loans to economically weaker section of the Society for the construction of houses; and

(e) if so, the main features of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) According to the data collected

during 1971 Census, about 47% of the population of eight metropolitan cities having population of more than 1 million each are living in one-room houses/tenements.

(b) and (c). the data collected during 1971 Census are still under compilation and, therefore, the requisite information is not available at present.

(d) and (e). The Government have already introduced a number of social housing schemes which aim at ameliorating the housing conditions of persons belonging to economically weaker sections of community. Most of these schemes envisage grant of long-term loans for construction of houses for the benefit of the weaker section. Material setting out the salient features of the schemes are available in the Parliament Library.

U. N. D. P. Programme in setting up Ship Design and Research Centre in India

1117. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI PURUSHOTTAM
KAKODKAR :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme used to insist upon India in setting up a Ship Design and research Centre ; and

(b) whether U. N. D. P. will also provide a number of fellowships for technicians and Engineers of the Hindustan Shipyard and main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) and (b). Certain proposals including the setting up of a Ship Design and Research Centre have been made for consideration of UNDP. These proposals include provision of fellowships for training facility of engineers and technicians of Indian Shipyards.

Larger allocation for National Highways and other Central Road Project for the Year 1972-73

1118. SHRI P. M. MEHTA
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the union Ministry of finance

has agreed to let the expenditure on National Highways and other Central road projects to go up to Rs. 100 crores in 1972-73 as against the budget provisions of Rs 75 crores ; and

(b) if so, whether the Union Government are also considering and have informed the States that a larger allocation will be provided next year if the performance was better ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The State Governments have been informed that finances are no problem in regard to the provision of increased funds to meet their demands for larger allocations for National Highways provided such demands are justified by actual progress on the ground. This holds good for next year also.

Steps for improvement in Cooperative Farming Societies

1119. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to revitalise Cooperative Farming Societies in the country ; and

(b) if so, the extent to which it will help the improvement in the working of the Cooperative Societies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) From the beginning of the Fourth Plan, the Cooperative Farming Programme is entirely in the state sector and no scheme in the Central sector for the revitalisation of Cooperative Farming Societies is under consideration of the Union Government.

(b) As there is no such scheme under consideration of the Union Government, part (b) of the Question does not arise.

बिहार में पेय जल की कमी और उसको दूर करने के लिए कार्यवाही

1120. श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने

की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस वर्ष तीव्र गर्मी के कारण बिहार के ग्रामीणों को पेय जल की भारी कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो बिहार के किन-किन जिलों में यह उग्र रूप धारण कर रहा है और सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या समाधान निकाला है ;

(ग) क्या बिहार में पेय जल की भारी कमी को देखते हुए 10 हजार की आबादी वाले गांवों तथा बस्तियों में पानी का टैंक बनाने तथा पाइपों द्वारा पानी की सप्लाई करने के लिए कोई योजना बनाई गई है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उक्त योजना कब तक क्रियान्वित की जाएगी ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० के० फिस्कू) : (क) से (घ) . जलपूर्ति कार्यक्रम राज्य क्षेत्र में आते हैं। जिन क्षेत्रों में पेय जल की कमी अनुभव की जाती है वहाँ के लिए जलपूर्ति योजनाएं बनाने, इन योजनाओं को आवश्यकतानुसार प्राथमिकता देने और अपने राज्य की योजना में उपलब्ध साधनों में उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने का काम राज्य सरकार का ही है। फिर भी, इस प्रश्न से सम्बन्धित ठीक-ठीक सूचना बिहार सरकार से एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

बिहार में पानी की कमी के कारण फसलों को हुई क्षति

1121. श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर : क्या कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार में इस वर्ष की गर्मियों में पानी की कमी होने से जब तक बिजली फेल होने के कारण धान की फसल और अन्य फसलों को कितनी क्षति हुई है ;

(ख) क्या इसके कारण बिहार के कई जिलों में विशेषकर दरभंगा, सहरसा, संचाल, परगना आदि में अकाल की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गयी है ; और