

light up 20000 dwindled areas of the Harijans has evoked shockingly poor response from the States,

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether Centre has taken up this matter with the State Governments, and if so, with what results ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C PANT) :**

(a) In December, 1971, the Government of India introduced a scheme of concessional loan assistance to the State Electricity Boards through the Rural Electrification Corporation for electrification of Harijan Basties, adjacent to the villages already electrified. The scheme evoked a good response during the years 1971-72 and 1972-73. Progress has, however, been slower during the current financial year.

(b) One of the pre-conditions for the loan assistance is to obtain an assurance from the local bodies concerned in respect of payment of current consumption charges to the Electricity Boards. This has not been fulfilled in many cases.

(c) Yes, Sir. The matter has been taken up recently with the State Governments concerned for expediting the schemes. Their reaction is awaited.

**Self-sufficiency in Manufacture of Steam and Diesel Locomotives**

2743. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a state of self-sufficiency has been reached regarding manufacture of steam and diesel locomotives if not, the reason for the same; and

(b) whether electric locomotives are also being manufactured in the country and if so, number of such engines manufactured during 1973 ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI**

MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) There are two Railway Production Units viz. the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works and the Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, which undertake manufacture of locomotives for the Railways. The requirements of Steam and Diesel Locomotives are being met by production in these Production Units.

(b) Manufacture of Electric Locomotives is also undertaken in the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works and the output is expected to be 43 Electric Locos during the year 1973-74.

**Proposal to run more Air-conditioned Trains with Third Class Sleepers and Chairs during the Fifth Five Year Plan**

2744 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to run more air-conditioned trains with third class sleepers and chairs during the Fifth Five Year Plan,

(b) whether any scheme in this regard has been chalked out, and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :** (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

**Assistance for Execution of Upper Krishna Project in Karnataka**

2745 SHRI P R. SHENOY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Irrigation Commission has recommended that large irrigation projects which serve backward areas should be assisted by the Central Government by giving special financial assistance to the State for the expeditious and efficient execution of the projects, and