

States was also discussed. A broad consensus emerged during negotiations regarding the quantum of water which can be saved and the manner in which it may be apportioned. Consensus was also reached to set up Cauvery Valley Authority to regulate supplies of the Cauvery with a view to ensuring the most equitable distribution of waters. The authority would also monitor the schemes for effecting savings and allocate of waters so saved amongst the various States on an agreed basis. The discussions were marked by free and frank exchange of views and an earnest desire on the part of all to reach an amicable settlement of the complex issues involved.

Instructions to State Governments to impose lower levy on rich farmers

2778. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

DR. H. P. SHARMA:

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD
MANDAL:

PROF. MADHU DANDA-
VATE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a circular recently issued by his Ministry to the State Governments, rich farmers having their own tubewells would attract a lower levy compared to those who depend on public irrigation system; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). While intimating the price and procurement policy for Kharif cereals for 1974-75 season the State Governments were advised *inter-alia* to consider that producers drawing water from irrigation works constructed from public funds should bear higher levy as compared to those who have to depend on their own irrigation facilities. It was considered that farmers who utilise facilities provided from the public funds should

legitimately shoulder a higher responsibility for meeting the needs of the Public Distribution system.

Enquiry into working of National Book Trust

2779. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH
RAO:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have inquired into the working of National Book Trust, India, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the nature of irregularities which have come to the notice of Government during the period; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the drawbacks of the Board?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) No inquiry has been instituted by the Government during the last three years with a view to finding out if there are any irregularities in the working of the National Book Trust. However, the Review Committee set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Prof. Nihar-ranjan Ray has since submitted its report, which has, *inter-alia*, examined the extent to which the National Book Trust has realised its objectives and made certain recommendations to improve its present method and policy relating to pricing, printing, distribution and sale of its publications, etc. The report is under consideration.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

बिस्ली में विभिन्न राजनैतिक दलों को
प्राबंठित आवास

2780. श्री भारत सिंह चौहान : क्या