

certain conditions which are at variance with the conditions attached with the revised scales of pay. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have issued orders for revision of scales of pay of college teachers. These are, however, under examination.

4. The Government of Orissa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir have submitted their proposals which are under examination

5. The remaining State Governments have not intimated their decision in the matter so far.

Difficulties faced by Housing Societies in Delhi

453. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item which appeared in The Hindustan Times' dated the 20th November, 1975 to the effect that one hundred and sixty group housing societies, with a membership of 25,000 are finding it difficult to build houses; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto and steps taken to remove the difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It is for the societies to arrange for the funds for construction. The eligible cooperative societies can approach Life Insurance Corporation and Housing and Urban Development Corporation for financial assistance.

Weed growth in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

454. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE, AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a special type of weed (South America) is creating menace in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to eradicate this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, the Government is aware that a special type of weed popularly called South African Weed is a common weed in Paddy fields in Kerala. Its spread to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka on a wide scale has not been reported. This South African Weed (not South American) is known as Water fern and the scientific name is *Salvinia auriculata* Aublet.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research held an inter-ministerial meeting to finalise National Plans for eradication of pernicious weeds and this weed was identified as one of these pernicious weeds. As a result of this meeting a Sub-Committee was formed to finalise an Action Plan for eradication and control of weeds.

World Bank aid for minor irrigation schemes in Faizabad, U.P.

455 SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) amount received from the World Bank for minor irrigation schemes in Faizabad Division of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the amount utilised for the purpose so far and the progress made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ

KHAN): (a) The Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Credit Project involving the total outlay of Rs. 54.30 crores with I.D.A. assistance of Rs. 28.50 crores to be routed through Government of India Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation has been sanctioned. The Project covers 14 Eastern Districts of Uttar Pradesh including Faizabad. Against the above total assistance from I.D.A. Rs. 9.27 crores have been claimed till December, 1975 by Government of India. Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation will be providing these funds through financing agencies i.e., the Land Development Banks and the participating commercial banks in these districts.

In so far as Faizabad Division is concerned Rs. 12.20 crores in proposed to be provided through Land Development Bank and 6 participating commercial banks for the entire project period i.e. 1973-76.

(b) The Land Development Banks have disbursed Rs. 4.99 crores and the participating commercial banks estimated disbursement is Rs 0.82 crores upto November, 1975 in 5 out of 6 districts of Faizabad Division under the above project for Minor irrigation works.

Effect on consumers of incentives to sugar factories

456. **SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:**
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state how far a higher percentage of levy-free sugar to new sugar factories and expansion projects in existing units and also concessions on excise duty would help sugarcane growers in U.P. as well as consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): The incentives are meant

primarily to render the newly licensed sugar factories and expansion in the existing ones to become economically viable in the face of the high cost of plant and machinery involved and thereby facilitate their early commissioning. The cane growers in the area will benefit indirectly by being able to sell their cane against additional requirements of the new production capacity and similarly the consumers from the resulting additional production of sugar.

Committee on Rural Unemployment

457. **SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Committee on Rural Unemployment, under-employment among agricultural workers has been increasing; and

(b) if so, the suggestions of the Committee in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). A Study Team on Rural Employment and not a Committee, was constituted with a view to suggesting necessary measures for creating employment opportunities in rural areas. The Study Team have submitted its report which is now under consideration of the Government.

Long Term Programme initiated during International Women's Year

458. **SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn a long term programme for betterment of the lot of women which was initiated in 1975, to be fulfilled in the coming decade; and