

of assistance as grant whereas the corresponding assistance given to the displaced persons is in the shape of loans.

(d) Does not arise

7-Point Plan for tackling unemployment

12. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering 7-Point Plan for tackling unemployment; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b). The problem of generating employment is linked up with the economic progress of the country. While inaugurating the symposium on Employment Strategies and Programmes for Bangla Desh, India and Sri Lanka, on the 2nd February, 1976, at the Commonwealth Asia-Pacific Regional Centre for Advanced Studies in Youth Work, Chandigarh, Education Minister had emphasised the need to assign the highest priority to the problem of unemployment among the rural uneducated population. In this connection he had expressed the opinion that a 7-point integrated programme covering (1) increased investment on a priority basis, (2) large-scale introduction of science and technology, (3) education and culture, (4) health, (5) participation, (6) increased production and (7) equitable distribution, be taken up. Such a programme may be built around the development of agriculture and that it was essential to ensure that programmes of economic growth, reform of the wage structure on a more egalitarian basis, and radical changes in recruitment policies have to be pursued side by side.

Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development

13. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of assistance provided by the Ministry to AVARD (Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development) and other organisations affiliated to it for various development works;

(b) the extent of foreign assistance sought by these organisations during the last three years; and

(c) the progress of work done by AVARD in the field of rural development and whether Government are satisfied with their progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The People's Action for Development (India)—a society set up under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Department of Agriculture) has so far released the following grants for the two projects being implemented by AVARD direct

(1) Irrigation Project under Food for Work programme in Pratappur Block in Hazaribagh district of Bihar State

- (i) Cash—Rs. 5,05,000 and
- (ii) Kind—Rs. 17,18,913.75 (Wheat)

This assistance was received from Central Agency, a Voluntary Organisation of West Germany during 1968-69.

(2) Rural Works in Minor Irrigation programme in Mushari and Jamui Blocks in district Muzaffarpur and Monghyr, Bihar Rs. 78,50,000 This assistance has also been received from Central agency, West Germany, both in cash and kind (Fertiliser).

(b) An amount of Rs. 1,22,00,682.95 has been received by PADI from Central Agency, West Germany

both in cash (Rs. 13,44,029.00) and in kind fertiliser (Rs. 1,09,53,853.95) during the last three years for the project mentioned at (a) (2) above. This excludes the amount received in 1968-69 for the project mentioned at (a) (1) above.

(c) As per progress report received, the progress of work is as follows:

(i) In Pratappur Project till November, 1974 all the 19 ahars have been renovated and all the 4 check-dams constructed alongwith channels as proposed in the plan. In case of one check-dam channel construction has been held up because of a land dispute. Total area brought under irrigation is 5480 acres. 2078 farmers have been benefited.

(ii) Regarding Jamui and Mushari projects till June 75, 23 villages had been provided irrigation facilities, sufficient to saturate all cultivated areas in those villages. The total irrigation potential created by the project was 9865 acres.

World Bank Loan for Flood Control Schemes

14 SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) concrete steps being taken to face the flood havoc during the coming monsoon;

(b) whether the World Bank has been approached for loan for the flood control schemes; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Flood control measures on a country-wide basis were initiated in 1954 and so far, an expenditure of Rs. 390 crores has been incurred

on various flood control works. Nearly 8,045 KM length of embankments, 15,000 KM length of drainage channels, 213 flood protection works and raising of 4,665 villages have been completed, besides executing several other anti-erosion works. With these measures, it has been possible to provide a reasonable protection to nearly 79 lakh hectares of land out of 250 lakh hectares of land which has been assessed as flood prone. Additional flood control measures are being taken up according to the availability of funds. During 1975-76 an outlay of Rs. 43 crores has been provided for flood control works in the Annual Plans of the different States. A priority programme of flood protection and restoration of damaged works, in light of the 1975 floods, particularly in the States of Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh has been taken up in right earnest and an expenditure of nearly Rs. 16 crores is likely to be incurred on these works in the current year, in addition to the normal outlay on the flood control programmes. This programme includes flood protection works for the Patna City. Efforts are being made to step up the tempo of the flood control works during the year 1976-77.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Arrears of Sugarcane Price from Sugar Mills in U.P. and Bihar

15 SHRI S M BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to recover arrears of sugarcane price from the various Sugar Mills in U.P. and Bihar;

(b) total amount of arrears; and

(c) whether State Governments have been asked to take action against the defaulting Sugar Mills?