

per cent of the emoluments, and also for the periods for which quarters are likely to lie vacant.

The above-mentioned basis of working out the assessed rent has been revised with reference to the observations of the Convention Committee and the Public Accounts Committee and the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission. Now the average assessed rent for all quarters is calculated category-wise on the basis of 6 per cent of the capital cost of the quarters in each category. The change-over has been brought about in two stages, viz.

(i) the rent of each individual quarter was increased with effect from 1-10-1960 on an *ad hoc* basis by 25 per cent in respect of quarters, rents of which had been assessed at less than 5 per cent of the capital cost; and

(ii) the rent of all quarters reassessed at 6 per cent of the capital cost as on 30th September, 1960 and the rents so assessed charged with effect from 1-10-1961.

Recovery of rent is, however, limited to 10 per cent of emoluments and in the case of staff drawing below Rs. 150 per month in the authorised scales of pay, it has been reduced to 7½ per cent of emoluments.

Irrigation Projects

2214. **Shri K. L. Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey of the irrigation projects in the country costing between Rs. one lakh to Rs. ten lakhs each has been conducted;

(b) if so, whether a list together with benefits and approximate costs thereof will be laid on the Table; and

(c) the amount of money spent on such projects in First and Second Five Year Plans and its provision in Third Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) to (c). The required information is being collected from the State Governments and Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received.

Sea Erosion in Kerala

2215. **Shri Ravindra Varma:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that considerable damage has been done to the National Highway in Kerala and breaches made on the Highway between Quilon and Alleppey as a result of the inroads made by the sea on the 12th and 13th of April and that thousands of fishermen who live along the sea coast in this region have been rendered homeless;

(b) whether he will lay on the Table a statement giving the nature and extent of the damage to the Highway and the number of people who have been rendered homeless;

(c) what measures have been undertaken to render relief to the victims of the calamity; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to prevent further erosion and inroads by the sea in this region?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (d). According to the report received from the Government of Kerala, the position is as follows:

The sea shore at Thottappally and Purakkad area in the Alleppey District was badly affected by erosion on 12th April 1962 and 13th April 1962. The action of the waves was extraordinarily ferocious and unprecedented. The sea shore for a length of about 3 miles north of Thottappally Spillway mouth up to 4¼ of National Highway was affected by sea erosion. Sea also made an encroachment for about 50 ft. to 100 ft ex-