

30 inches annual rainfall) or irrigation facilities. The work has been extended to about 170 districts so far. During the years 1957-58 to 1963-64 about 65,000 experiments were conducted. The scheme is implemented in collaboration with the State Governments.

Cultivation of Land

90. Dr. P. Srinivasan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land where food-grains were raised in 1963 and 1964; and

(b) the acreage of land where cash crops were raised during the same period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): A statement giving the all-India area under each of the foodgrains crops and the principal cash crop during 1963-64 and 1962-63 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3365/64].

Indian Central Cotton Committee

91. Shri Kajrolkar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions reached at the meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee held in Bombay in September, 1964;

(b) whether it is a fact that this Committee was proposed to be abolished as it was said to have served its purpose; and

(c) whether there was a protest from the growers of cotton and industrialists against the abolition of this committee?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) A summary of the important decisions taken is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3366/64].

(b) It is proposed to transfer the research functions of the Committee

to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Consequently there will be certain changes in the functions of this Committee.

(c) There was a protest against the proposal for abolition of the Committee as reported in the Press at the meeting of the Committee held on 1 September, 1964.

Air-linking of Madhya Pradesh Towns

92. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Uikay:
Shri Chandak:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaiya:
Shri Bakliwal:
Shri Wadiwa:
Shri Surya Prasad:
Shri J. P. Jyotishi:
Shri R. S. Tiwary:
Shri R. S. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for air-linking important towns of the State with Delhi on payment of subsidy from the Civil Aviation Development Fund; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Co-operative Laws

93. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state the steps taken to simplify and liberalise the Co-operative laws of the Union Territories in the light of the resolution of National Development Council?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): A proposal to extend the Punjab Co-operative Societies Act, 1961 to the

Union Territory of Delhi with certain modifications is under consideration.

In the light of the comments of this Ministry the Himachal Pradesh Government is preparing draft legislation.

As regards the territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands the Administration is considering the preparation of a draft regulation to be promulgated by the President in order to replace the Co-operative Societies Act of 1912 which is now in force.

As regards Tripura, the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, 1925 has been brought into force and additional provisions have been made in the statutory rules to suit the present requirements.

The Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act, 1960 has been extended to Goa, Daman and Diu and the Gujarat Co-operative Societies Act, 1961 has been extended to Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

As regards, Manipur, NEFA, Pondicherry and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands, the question of simplification and liberalisation of Co-operative laws is under consideration.

Protection of Wild Life

94. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the effective steps that Government propose to take for the protection of wild life in the States?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The preservation of wild animals and wild birds is a state subject and all measures for this purpose have ultimately to be taken and implemented by the State Governments. A provision of Rs. 135 lakhs in the II Five Year Plan and of Rs. 209 lakhs in the Third Plan was made for the schemes relating to the subject subsidised to the extent of 50 p.c. from the Centre. The Indian Board for Wild Life which is an Ad-

visory body set up by the Government of India makes recommendations on various measures for the preservation of wild life which are communicated to the State Governments though the Government of India some of the important steps which have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government of India for the preservation of wild life are briefly indicated in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3367/64].

Highway in Rajasthan

95. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the time likely to be taken for the completion of the National Highway between Bikaner and Biramsar (Rajasthan) according to the phased programme; and

(b) the total outlay for this portion of the road?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Construction of 43 miles of the road from Bikaner to Dungargarh is likely to be completed by the middle of 1965. For the stretch from Dungargarh to Biramsar (52 miles), sanction for land acquisition has been accorded. The work of constructing this section will be taken up during the Fourth Plan.

(b) The estimated cost of the construction of Bikaner-Biramsar section will be about Rs. 75 lakhs.

Food Production in Rajasthan

96. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of agricultural programme under Third Five Year Plan about the food production in Rajasthan;

(b) the names of Districts in Rajasthan which attained targets in food production together with the estimated and actual increase in agricultural food output?