

(ख) नागपुर और बम्बई के बीच सहस्रुरीय केविल प्रणाली की व्यवस्था की जा रही है। इस काम को द्वाय में ले लिया गया है। नागपुर से सम्बन्ध जोड़ने के लिए बम्बई टूक स्वचल एक्सचेंज के विस्तार हेतु उपस्कर के लिए ग्रांडर भी दे दिये गये हैं। 1971 तक सीधी डावर्लिंग सुविधा उपलब्ध किये जाने की प्रासा है।

Rehabilitation of East Pakistan Refugees in Isgaon (A.P.)

8524. SHRI GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that an area of more than two thousand acres of forest at Isgaon in Adilabad District in Andhra Pradesh has been cleared to rehabilitate the East Pakistan refugees;

(b) if so, the amount spent per acre for reclamation;

(c) the number of families who have rehabilitated at Isgaon; and

(d) whether it is a fact that this area selected for rehabilitation is not at all fit for cultivation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) About 6,700 acres of forest lands have been reclaimed at Isgaon in Adilabad District of Andhra Pradesh for rehabilitation of new migrants from East Pakistan.

(b) About Rs. 400/-per acre.

(c) Nearly 700 new migrant families were reported to be residing at Isgaon on 31.3.1968; they are in various stages of rehabilitation.

(d) No, Sir. The area selected for rehabilitation has been found favourable for cultivation and is a responsive to good soil management and cropping practices.

Refugees in Neil Island of Andaman Group

8525. SHRI K. R. GANESH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) how many refugee settlers have been colonised in the Neil island of the And-

man Group and when they were brought there;

(b) the scheme for their settlement and whether land has been allotted to them;

(c) whether land has been found suitable for paddy cultivation and whether there is shortage of water for this land; and

(d) if so, the scheme which Government have formulated to engage the settlers in the meantime ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) In April and May, 1967, 86 families of East Pakistan migrants comprising 402 persons were sent to Neil Island.

(b) Land measuring approximately 2,000 acres in the Neil Island is suitable for reclamation. Out of this, nearly 1,000 acres have already been cleared of forest. In the coming season it is proposed to have this area of land sown by the migrants. As more land is cleared of forest, land cleared earlier will be used for planting coconut trees for which there is good scope in this island. Eventually it is expected that three-fifths of the area of land cleared will be brought under plantation and the rest will be used for normal agricultural purposes. Five acres of land comprising three acres of plantation and two of ordinary agricultural land will be allotted to each migrant family.

(c) Land in this island is more suitable for coconut plantation. However, it has been found that in about two-fifths of the land, which will be clear-felled, paddy can be grown. There is no shortage of water in the island.

(d) The migrants who have been sent to Neil Island are at present working on clear-felling of the forest. In the coming season they will, in addition, grow paddy on land already cleared. thereafter, coco-plantations will be raised on lands which are more suitable for this purpose and the migrants will work on raising such plantations.

Financial Assistance for Soil Conservation in Catchment Areas

8526. SHRI S. A. AGADI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE