

Electricity Supply to Laccadive Islands

**4174. Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to supply electricity to the Laccadive Islands in the Fourth Plan; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):

(a) and (b). Yes. During the Fourth Plan, it is proposed to electrify six new Islands namely; (i) Kalpeni, (ii) Agathi, (iii) Madamat, (iv) Kiltan, (v) Chetlat and (vi) Bitra besides completing the remaining work on the electrification of Karavathy, Minicoy Ameni and Androth Islands. Schemes for electrification of six new Islands are being formulated by the Central Water and Power Commission. These schemes envisage installation of diesel generating sets of capacity varying from 9KW to 48 KW for supplying power to small scale industries like Ice Factory, Fish Storage, Canning Factory and Hosiery Factory etc. in addition to domestic services and street lighting. With the electrification of the six villages, all the inhabited villages in the Laccadive islands would be electrified.

Deaf and Dumb School in Kerala

**4175. Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to close down the deaf and dumb school in Kunnamkulam, Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and

will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

Sholayar Project

**4176. Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Dr. Mahadeva Prasad:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coil of the generator in Sholayar Project was burnt and power generation has been postponed to May, 1968

(b) if so, the loss incurred as a result thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) Yes. The generator coil did not stand the high voltage test. It was therefore replaced. The generating unit is now expected to be commissioned by end of April or the beginning of May, 1968.

(b) This is being assessed by the Govt. of Kerala.

(c) Necessary claim is being lodged with the Insurance Co. by the Govt. of Kerala.

Tribal Welfare Schemes

4177. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted under the Tribal Welfare Schemes, year wise, during the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) the shortfall in expenditure, if any;

(c) the physical target achieved; and

(d) the existing machinery to ensure proper utilisation of the Tribal Welfare Fund?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): The required infor-

mation is as under:—

(a) Year	Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)
1961-62	839.90
1962-63	921.77
1963-64	1015.23
1964-65	1383.68
1965-66	1625.98
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Total:	5786.56

(b) and (c). The Third Five Year Plan came to an end on 31-3-1963. The progress reports for the year ending 31-3-1966, will be due in June, 1966. The requisite information relating to the shortfalls in expenditure and about the physical targets etc will, therefore, be available after June, 1966.

(d) The schemes are implemented through the various States Governments/Union Territory Administrations. A special officer of the rank of Joint Secretary, viz. the Director (Welfare of Backward Classes) has been appointed in the Department of Social Welfare. He is responsible for maintaining a close liaison with the State Governments in watching the progress of the schemes. In addition, there is the organisation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, with regional Deputy Commissioners in all the States. The question of setting up a further agency to ensure proper implementation of the schemes for the welfare of Backward Classes is also under consideration.

Cholera in Kerala

4178. Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether cholera had spread in Taliparamba Taluk, Kerala State during March, 1966; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning Dr. Sushila Nayar: (a) and (b). Yes, two villages in Taliparamba

Taluk, Kerala State were affected by cholera and suspected cases were reported first on 27th February, 1966. 118 suspected cases were reported upto 7th March, and thereafter only 15 suspected cases were reported upto 31st March, 1966. Out of 6 cases declared positive, 5 proved fatal.

Backward Areas

4179. Shri Umanath: Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the communication sent by the Planning Commission to the States regarding the identification of backward areas, debaring the States from identifying backward areas if they are confined to contiguous talukas within a district and applies only in cases where the entire district is backward;

(b) whether it is a fact that the general recommendations regarding the development of the backward areas in various States in the country made by the Study Team that investigated into the condition of Eastern Districts of U.P. and the procedures in regard thereto, which were referred to in the Half-an-Hour discussion would apply only if the entire district is backward and not otherwise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Central Assistance for accelerated development of backward pockets within each State is conditioned by the backward area covering an entire district, and not if the backward area is confined to a part of the district; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (d). In view of the fact that most of the statistical data for the selected indicators enclosed with Planning Commission's letter to State Government dated January 1965, are available district-wise, it was suggested that the backward areas might be identified by administrative districts. There has been no suggestion that backward areas within a State cannot be identified on the basis of a smaller