

FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) Yes.

(b) These islands are very small and the roads (in these islands) are not fit for vehicular traffic.

(c) The hospital and primary health centres are within easy walking distance of inhabited areas. As such the need for providing vehicles is not felt.

Cost of Production of Fertilizers

1599. SHRI M. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any machinery exists to apply the tools of management, statistics and economics to minimise the costs in production of fertilizers and more particularly in its distribution ;

(b) if so, how far this machinery has helped in giving tangible results ;

(c) the results achieved in assessing the cost of production during the last three years ; and

(d) if not, the dynamic approach proposed to be made in these directions to achieve the desired results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) :

(a) Such tools as Statistical quality Control, Production Planning and Control, Costing and Budgetary Control, Inventory Control are in use in the fertilizer plants.

(b) Tangible results have resulted by the application of such tools.

(c) Application of these techniques have resulted in improving the performance and cost of production. In particular in the case of FCI :

(i) Substitution of Dolomite for Lime and Caustic Soda for Potash at Nangal.

(ii) Modification on size of bags used at Nangal for packing fertilizers.

(iii) Improvement of product pattern to produce higher analysis fertilizers at Trombay.

(iv) Diversification programme, including utilisation of the by-products etc. at Trombay.

(v) Production of indigenous catalysts by the P & D Division of FCI etc.

(d) It is proposed to continue the application of such techniques and further strengthen the organisation to meet the increasing demand of fertilizers.

Payment of matured Policies

1600. SHRI M.N. DEDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Life Insurance Corporation take recourse to delaying tactics to pay the matured policies of the policy holders by asking them to produce birth certificates and other superfluous evidences ;

(b) the reasons why such certificates and documents are not called for at the time of taking policies or three months before the policies are matured ; and

(c) the steps which have been taken or proposed to be taken to pay out the matured policies within a month of their maturity ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). In view of the inability of the proponents to furnish proof of age along with the proposal, the LIC has been permitting the policyholders to prove the age at a later date. Since the premium charged on a policy depends on the age of the life assured, it is necessary to ensure that there was no discrepancy in the age stated in the policy. At present, in the case of matured policies where the age has not been proved, the Corporation calls for the proof, 4 months in advance of the date of maturity. The Corporation has, however now, decided that as from 1.4.69, the proof of age

should be submitted along with the proposal in all cases.

(c) The intimation regarding claim is normally sent to the policyholder two months in advance to enable him to complete all the required formalities before the date of maturity. Where the requirements are satisfied in time the claims are generally settled promptly.

Setting up of Regional and National Grids

1602. SHRI M. N. REDDY :

SHRI BHOLA NATH

MASTER :

SHRI MAHARAJ SINGH

BHARTI :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that inter-State differences and financial considerations are an impediment to the establishment of regional and national grids in the country;

(b) if so, to what extent these differences have been ironed out ;

(c) the progress made so far in the various States for setting up regional and national grids; and

(d) when the national grid system is likely to be completed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, to a large extent.

(b) to (d). The Centre has accordingly decided to include the programme of construction of inter-State and inter-Regional lines in the Centrally sponsored schemes during the Fourth Plan. The progress made in the establishment of Regional Electricity Grids with the aim of forming an all-India Electricity Grid by inter-connecting various power systems in the States is given below :—

Northern Region : This Region comprises the States of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territories of Delhi, Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh and Delhi are connected by a 220 kV link which was completed in 1966-67 and is presently being operated at 132 kV. Punjab and Haryana are

already inter-connected by 220 kV transmission links from the Bhakra System. The 220 kV link between Delhi and Ballabhgarh in Haryana was completed in November, 1968, and Haryana is availing of power from the Indraprastha Station at Delhi. The 132 kV link between Sirsa in Haryana and Hanumangarh in Rajasthan is under construction and is expected to be completed by June, 1969. The 220 kV link between Hissar in Haryana and Khetri in Rajasthan has recently been completed.

Western Region : This Region comprises the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and the Union Territories of Goa, Daman & Diu. The 220 kV line between Navsari in Gujarat and Tarapur Nuclear power Station in Maharashtra was completed in 1967. On completion of the 220 kV link inter-connecting Tarapur Nuclear Power Station with Borivili in Maharashtra — this line is under construction and is expected to be completed by April, 1969 — Gujarat and Maharashtra would be inter-connected *via* Tarapur. The 132 kV link inter-connecting Chandni in Madhya Pradesh with Bhusawal in Maharashtra has been completed and energised in January, 1969. Maharashtra is availing power from Madhya Pradesh through this line.

Southern Region : This Region comprises the States of Tamil Nadu, Mysore, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and the Union Territory of Pondicherry. The 220 kV link between Mysore and Tamil Nadu was completed in 1965 and the 110 kV link between Kasargode (Kerala) and Mangalore (Mysore) was completed in 1966. The 220 kV transmission line between Pamba in Kerala and Madurai in Tamil Nadu has been completed and commissioned. Tamil Nadu is presently availing power from Kerala through this line. The 220 kV line between Cudappah in Andhra Pradesh and Singarapet in Tamil Nadu is under construction and it is expected to be completed during 1969.

Eastern Region : This Region comprises the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and the power system of the Damodar Valley Corporation. This Region is already inter-connected by means of 132 kV lines.