

who have availed of the rehabilitation assistance are still continuing in their new profession or whether any of them have changed over to the old profession of goldsmiths.

Status of Chairman, Central Social Welfare Board

1117. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Dr. M. M. Das:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Social Welfare Board will have a full time paid Chairman instead of Honorary Chairman and Directors;

(b) if so, the reasons for this change; and

(c) the status of the Chairman and reasons for change in the status, if any, as compared to the status of the former Chairman?

The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) No, Sir. The Central Social Welfare Board has already got a full-time paid Chairman. It has, however, no directors.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The question of future status of the Chairman is under consideration along with the question of the future status of the Board itself.

Iddikki Scheme

1118. **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**
Shri Warrior:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the agreement for financial assistance from Canada for the Iddikki scheme in Kerala has not yet been finalised;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the work on the Iddikki project is not progressing according to schedule; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b). The Loan Agreement for the project is being re-drafted by External Aid Office, Canada on the basis of fifty year maturity, including a ten year grace period, and with no interest, service charge or commitment charge. This re-drafting is one of the reasons for delay in the signing of the Agreement. The other reasons for delay related to the question of procurement procedure to be followed. This has now been resolved satisfactorily. The draft procurement procedure has now been referred to the Kerala State Electricity Board for their views.

(c) Arrangement of work are going on according to schedule.

(d) Does not arise.

Regional Public Health Laboratories, Kerala

1119. **Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**
Shri Bagri:
Shri Yashpal Singh

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4042 on the 1st September, 1966 regarding Regional Public Health Laboratories in Kerala and state:

(a) whether the proposals for additional staff, location of site, plans and estimates have since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The proposals are still under consideration of the Government of Kerala.