

AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Subject to the availability of trained specialists and equipment, provision of surgical Units in higher specialities may be considered in suitable medical colleges/institutes. It is not possible to provide specialised Units in higher surgical specialities such as Chest surgery, neuro-Surgery, etc., in all medical colleges.

Provident Fund For N. D. M. C. Employees

928. **SHRI M. L. SONDHI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of N. D. M. C. employees are without any benefit of provident fund or other accumulated savings as they have not been confirmed although they are about to retire from service ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to redress their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) No, Most of the N. D. M. C. employees who were due for confirmation have been confirmed against the posts available for confirmation. Permanent employees are contributing towards contributory Provident Fund from the date of their confirmation. The temporary employees who have completed one year of service are also contributing to General Provident Fund. The amount of General Provident Fund is credited to contributory Provident Fund on their confirmation.

(b) The Committee has decided to treat 80% of all temporary posts which have been in existence for more than 3 years and are of permanent nature, as permanent, and the employees have also been confirmed or are being confirmed against the posts thus declared permanent.

Fifth Finance Commission

929. **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :**
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH :

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :
SHRI RANJIT SINGH :
SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA :
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made by the Fifth Finance Commission in its work so far ; and

(b) when it is likely to submit its final report ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) The Interim Report of the Commission together with an Explanatory Memorandum as to the action taken thereon was laid before the Lok Sabha on the 15th November, 1968. The Commission is presently holding discussions with State Governments.

(b) The Commission is required to make its final Report by the 31st July, 1969 in terms of the President's Order laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 29th February, 1968.

Allocation of Funds for Drinking Water in Fourth Plan

930. **SHRI D. R. PARMAR :**
SHRI R. K. AMIN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the provision of Rs. 450 crores has been made in the Fourth Plan for providing drinking water in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The Working Group has recommended a total provision of Rs. 454.25 crores for the urban and rural water supply and sanitation schemes under the National