

had taken away the right of the tribals in giving concessions. In 1980, there was an amendment in the Forest Act to conserve forests. I would like to know whether this committee will go into the details of these things? How far the proposed amendment in the Forest Act would affect the interests of the tribals?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This group will go into the details of the shifting cultivation and it also includes what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Sir, in 1978, a conference was held in regard to the tribal economy based on forest and a number of recommendations were made. Starting from 1951, I believe there are a number of report and proposals made by various Commissions and Committees including that of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Working Group of the Home Ministry on Tribal Development and the Committee constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture itself. They have recommended a number of proposals regarding the Development of the tribal economy on the forest base. But the Government has implemented partly and partially so far. If this had been fully implemented, there was no need to constitute the Task Force.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, this task force is created just to trace the problems of shifting cultivation in all the tribal areas and the hill areas. Whatever suggestions given by the Task Force will be later on examined and implemented.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question of shifting cultivation in the tribal areas is a very serious matter so far as the tribals are concerned as tens of millions of them are affected by this. Why is it that the Government had not thought of it so far and would they atleast think of appointing two or three tribal leaders belonging to the tribals themselves who know the attitude of the tribal people and who can make suggestions which would be acceptable and practicable in the tribal areas and also acceptable to the tribal people?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : It is already mentioned in the reply.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : It has only two experts.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The Task Force will associate all the Conservators of Forest in the area as well as those persons who are interested including the Members of Parliament. If they are so interested, they can write to the Task Force and they will be associated in that particular State.

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that there is a report of the Estimates Committee submitted to the House in 1979 in this very respect? Have they taken into account the report of the Committee and the proposals made by the Estimates Committee of this very House in this connection?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, this Task Force is appointed in view of the recommendations of the Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on 18th October, 1982. In the meeting, the Ministers discussed everything and this is one of the recommendations of the conference.

श्री एन० के० शेजवलकर : श्री सतेन्द्र नारायण सिंह उस समिति के चेयरमैन थे, उन्होंने रिपोर्ट दी है।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This is about the Task Force.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He is asking about the report of the Estimates Committee and not Task Force.

Supply of Milk Powder and Butter Oil

*588. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether it is a fact that milk powder and butter oil are being supplied to India as gift ;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from whom it was received in 1981-82 and 1982-83 ; and

(c) how the quantity of butter oil and

milk powder received during the year 1981-82 and 1982-83 under the gift scheme was utilised by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gift supplies of skim milk powder, butter oil and butter have been received as part of the committed gift supplies from the European Economic Community during 1981-82 and 1982-83 for the implementation of Operation Flood II Project.

(c) The gift commodities received in 1981 from the European Economic Community and the indigenously procured skim milk powder were pooled and issued by the Indian Dairy Corporation to the public and Cooperative dairies primarily to maintain the supply of milk from the dairies during the lean months. After meeting the requirement of liquid milk plants for regeneration into milk, a limited quantity of the commodities was issued to the dairies in 1981 for manufacture of baby food and ghee. However in 1982, the commodities were used by the public and cooperative dairy plants for regeneration into milk only. The resources generated through the sale of gift commodities are being utilised for dairy development activities under Operation Flood II programme in accordance with the agreement with the European Economic Community.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Request from Karnataka for Grant for Irrigation Projects

*581. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Karnataka has approached the Central Government for special grant for irrigation projects ;

(b) if so, the details regarding the projects which have been held up due to the shortage of money ; and

(c) the details regarding the amount Central Government have earmarked for irrigation projects in favour of Karnataka State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b).

The Minister for Public Works and Irrigation of Karnataka has recently requested for additional assistance of Rs. 75 crores per year for the next four years. The additional assistance sought is for 14 on-going major and 20 on-going medium irrigation projects on account of non-availability of adequate financial resources with the State. In this request specific reference has been made of Upper Krishna (Phase I of Stage I), Malaprabha, Bhadra, Tungabhadra and Ghataprabha Stage III.

(c) Against a total outlay of Rs. 89.41 crores for 1983-84 proposed by the State Government for major and medium irrigation sector, the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission recommended an outlay of Rs. 86.90 crores. However, the outlay has not yet been finalised between the Planning Commission and the State Government.

Development of Blocks

*582. DR. A.U. AZMI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) how many blocks in the country have developed potential for growth according to the genius and efforts of the people and resources of the blocks so far ;

(b) will the target of covering all the blocks as set out in the Sixth Plan be ever met with the tardy rate of progress ; and

(c) if not, what steps are proposed to accelerate the growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA) : (a) to (c). There is no single scheme for this purpose. Development of blocks is a continuing process and the various programmes of the Central and State Governments in the rural areas in the field of agriculture, animal