

dated the 22nd February, 1975 published from Patna under the heading "Problems of Gandak area" that the World Bank expert, Dr. D. Campbell has visited Gandak area in connection with waterlogging and seepage, along with various other problems from Valmikinagar to Motihari;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank expert has visited the area at the instance of Central Government;

(c) the report of the expert and the extent World Bank envisages to give aid; and

(d) Central Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (d). The Government have been the news item appearing in Indian Nation, Patna dated 22-2-1975.

2. The question of obtaining financial assistance for the development of the selected irrigation command areas in the country has been under correspondence with the World Bank (IDA) for some time past. It was indicated by them in January, 1975 that a Mission headed by Mr. D. Campbell would visit this country to study the requirements of such projects in respect of command area development programme. On the basis of studies the Bank will decide upon the size, contents and sequence of the projects to be taken up for World Bank (IDA) assistance. In pursuance of this, a World Bank Mission visited a number of irrigation projects including the Gandak project in Bihar, during the months of January-February, 1975. The Mission visited the Gandak Project area in Bihar from Valmikinagar to Motihari from 13th to 15th February, 1975, and subsequently had discussions at Patna about various items to be tackled in the project area including the problem of drainage. The Mission is expected to pay further visits before they finalise their recommendations to the World Bank. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate at this stage the

amount of financial assistance that might be provided the World Bank for command area development of Gandak project in Bihar.

Night Schools in Gujarat

*471. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of night schools functioning in Gujarat State, District-wise, for uneducated elders, and the persons who could not find time during the day;

(b) the number of persons getting this education in each District; and

(c) the amount spent on this scheme during the year 1973-74?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में भूख से मृत्यु

472. श्री फूल चन्द बर्मा : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में अकाल और सूखे के कारण अभी तक कितने लोगों की भूख से मृत्यु हुई है तथा कितने लोग छत्तीसगढ़ को छोड़ कर अन्य स्थानों को चले गये हैं, और

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अकाल की स्थिति से निपटने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को अभी तक क्या सुविधाएं दी हैं तथा भविष्य में दी जाने वाली सहायता का व्यौरा क्या है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहेब पी० शिन्दे) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि राज्य के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में भुखमर से कोई मृत्यु नहीं हुई है। राज्य सरकार को अभाव की स्थितियों के कारण इस क्षेत्र से श्रमिकों के बड़े पैमाने पर अन्यत्र जाने की भी कोई सूचना नहीं मिली है।

(ख) भारत सरकार ने राज्य सरकार को सूखे की स्थिति का सामना करने में सहायता देने के लिए चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान योजना के लिए अग्रिम सहायता के तौर पर 6.50 करोड़ रुपये की मंजूरी दी है। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली बनाये रखने में सहायता देने के लिए भारत सरकार राज्य की यथासम्भव खाद्यान्न भी आवंटित करती रही है।

Milk Powder Unit in Orissa

*473. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have approved any scheme for setting up Milk Powder Unit in the State of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme and the extent to which Central Government have extended its co-operation to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SINDE): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of Education in Delhi

*474. **SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for expansion of education in

Delhi at Higher Secondary School and College level for 1974-75; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b). During 1974-75 twelve new Higher Secondary Schools were opened and eight existing middle schools were upgraded. Besides, 175 sections were added to the existing schools. At the College level, more honours courses and B.Com. (Pass) courses were introduced in certain colleges and the number of optional subjects for B.A. (Pass) course was increased.

Paddy cultivation and its Production

*476. **SHRI VARKEY GEORGE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total area under paddy cultivation in the country at present;

(b) the area where high-yielding varieties have been used together with the percentage; and

(c) the impact of high-yielding varieties on the overall production of paddy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). An area of 38 million hectares was covered under paddy cultivation in the country in 1973-74. Out of this, 9.7 million hectares (25.5 per cent) were covered under the high yielding varieties of paddy.

(c) The production of rice in the country has increased from 30.4 million tonnes in 1966-67, the year in which the High Yielding Varieties Programme was initiated, to 43.7 million tonnes in 1973-74.