

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Subsidence in Asansole

\*865. SHRI GANESH GHOSH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of villages and towns have been declared dangerous for living in Raniganj, Asansol area of West Bengal;

(b) the total number of such villages declared unfit and the total number of people affected;

(c) whether any alternative arrangements have been made for the affected people and, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if no arrangements have been made, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Yes.

(b) so far 23 villages have been declared dangerous. The number of people affected is not known.

(c) and (d). these matters are being considered by the Government of West Bengal.

#### राज्यों को सहायता अनुदान

\*866. श्री मोल्लू प्रसाद: क्या समाज कल्याण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) संविधान के अनुच्छेद 275 (1) तथा उत्तर प्रदेश को छोड़ कर भाग 'क' के सभी राज्यों और भाग 'ख' (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर और पेंसू को छोड़ कर) के सभी राज्यों को भेजे गये गृह-कार्य मन्त्रालय के पत्र संख्या 74/4251-लोक दिनांक 17 नवम्बर, 1951 के अनुसार राज्यों को उनके विकास कार्यों के लिए दिये गये सहायता अनुदानों के बारे में कौन-

कौन से राज्य प्रति वर्ष फरवरी की समाप्ति से पूर्व व्यय का ब्यौरा देते रहे हैं, और

(ख) गत पांच वर्षों में मद-वार तथा वर्ष-वार केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा अन्तिम रूप से मंजूर की गई घनराशि तथा राज्य सरकारों द्वारा व्यय की गई और वापिस की गई राशि का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

समाज कल्याण विभाग में राज्य मन्त्री (डा० श्रीमती फूलरेणु गुह) (क) निर्देशित पत्र में विहित की गई प्रक्रिया पूर्व-योजना-काल में लागू होती थी। उसके साथ-साथ उसके अधीन केवल योजनाओं का ब्यौरा दिया जाना अपेक्षित था। इसलिए उस पत्र के अनुसार खर्च का ब्यौरा दिए जाने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा अन्तिम रूप से मंजूर की गई घनराशि खर्च के वास्तविक आंकड़ों पर आधारित होती है। पिछले पांच वर्षों का ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है :-

वर्ष	राज्य क्षेत्र	केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र
1964-65	472.80	572.97
1965-66	367.11	756.06
1966-67	297.12	979.26
1967-68 (अनुमानित)	195.51	559.82
1968-69 ( " )	223.83	681.79

#### Rise in Cost of Sugar Production

\*867. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps being taken to prevent any rise in the cost of production of sugar which is already comparatively too high in India vis-a-vis international cost of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE):

The main ingredients of the cost of production of sugar are (1) cost of sugarcane, (2) Government taxes, and (3) manufactu-

ring costs including return on capital employed. The question of manufacturing costs of sugar has been referred to the Tariff Commission. Rise in cost of sugarcane can be prevented through increase in per acre yields and increase in sucrose content of cane. Reduction in the manufacturing expenses also is possible by increasing the availability of sugarcane to factories and improving its quality. To this end, the State Government of the main sugar producing States have been advised to undertake intensive development of area roundabout the sugar factories and for this purpose, the basis of financial assistance from the Centre has been liberalised.

#### Appointment of more Election Commissioners.

\*868. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that the number of electorate in the country has increased from 176 millions in 1952 to 200 millions in 1967, Government have considered the desirability of appointing more Election Commissioners, as envisaged in Article 324 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, with what result and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON): (a) Government do not consider it necessary to appoint more Election Commissioners merely on account of the increase in the number of voters in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Cotton Production

\*869. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI:  
SHRI LOBO PRABHU:  
SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what special steps have been taken to improve the production of cotton, both quantitatively and qualitatively, in the last ten years;

(b) what has been the expenditure incu-

red on such development programmes and what have been the results;

(c) what was the total area under cotton in 1950-51, 1955-56, 1960-1961 and 1967-68 cotton seasons and of the total area under cotton, how much was under irrigation in these respective years; and

(d) what has been the production of cotton under long staple, medium staple and short staple and their percentage to the total at the end of the first Plan, second Plan, third Plan and in the latest available crop year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) in addition to coordinated cotton development schemes and intensive cultivation of cotton on the lines of the package programme, implemented by the States, Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Maximising the Production of Cotton and production of quality Seeds have been taken up for improving the yield as also quality of cotton crop.

(b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

(c) A statement is placed on the table of the Sabha. (*Placed in Library see No. LT-2780/68*)

(d) A statement is placed on the table of the Sabha. (*Placed in Library See No. LT-2780/68*)

#### National Awards for Outstanding Employers of Physically Handicapped

\*870. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have proposed a scheme of National Awards for outstanding employers of the physically handicapped and most efficient physically handicapped employees;

(b) if so, when the scheme is likely to be introduced; and

(c) the main features of the scheme?