

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उन किसानों को, जिनकी यह भूमि थी, इस भूमि पर खेती करने से वंचित किया गया और सरकार ने कई वर्षों तक हजारों एकड़ उपजाऊ भूमि को बेकार ही पड़े रहने दिया ?

स्वास्थ्य तथा परिवार नियोजन और निर्माण, आवास तथा नगरीय विकास मंत्री (श्री के० के० शाह) : (क) फ़िलहाल साधनों की कमी के कारण यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि गाज़ियाबाद में कार्यालय तथा रिहायशी वास का निर्माण कब आरम्भ किया जायेगा ।

(ख) जी, हाँ ।

(ग) भूमि के पहिले मालिकों के अनुरोध पर लगभग 958 एकड़ कुल अजित भूमि के अर्ध भाग पर खेती करने की अनुमति दे दी गयी तथा दूसरा अर्ध भाग बगैर उपयोग के पड़ा हुआ है ।

#### New Irrigation Projects in the Fourth Plan

\*587. SHRI LOBO PRABHU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to his statement at Irrigation Minister's Conference on the 26th May, 1969, very little provision has been made for the new projects in the Fourth Five Year Plan due to financial consideration, if so, whether staff and plans are ready for the new projects;

(b) whether the existing staff and unemployed engineers are likely to remain idle;

(c) what is the additional outlay required for the plans and the estimates which are already prepared;

(d) in view of the idle capacity in stone-ware pipes, the reasons for which water is not conveyed through them like oil, as it is likely to save loss from percolation;

(e) whether any experiments have been executed in this respect and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reasons for the low proportion of second crop irrigation and the steps contemplated to improve the same ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A provision of only Rs. 97.4 crores has been made for new irrigation projects in the draft Fourth Plan. Several new projects have already been investigated by the State Governments and many others are in an advanced stage of investigation and are ready for implementation. Technical Staff to build the projects are available in plenty.

It is assessed that the minimum outlay on new schemes in the Fourth Plan should be of the order of Rs. 250 crores to take up the most important projects.

The Fourth Conference of State Ministers of Irrigation and Power held in May, 1969 discussed this question. After noting that the allotments made in the Draft Fourth Plan, particularly for new irrigation projects and for power generation schemes, are inadequate, the Conference recommended that the additional Central Plan assistance which might become available after the proposed review by the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry should be exclusively earmarked for irrigation and power sectors of the States. This recommendation has been brought to the notice of the Planning Commission.

(d) and (e). Canals in irrigation projects carry large discharges and involve non-pressure flow. They are, therefore, built as open earthen channles, which are very inexpensive, compared with pipelines. These earthen channles are also lined wherever loss of water is to be avoided. To carry 100 cusecs of water, the ratio of costs of earthen channles, lined channels, and stoneware pipes is 1:1.5: 50.

(f) The reason for not growing a second crop is only the inadequacy of water in the required season. By constructing storage reservoirs and conserving monsoon waters, water is being made available for second crop. Also, under ground water is

developed for supplying irrigation waters as required through construction of tubewells and open wells.

**Bank Accounts Maintained by Ex-Princes  
Abroad**

\*588. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :  
SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3245 on the 11th March, 1969 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding the total amount deposited in the foreign banks as on the 31st March, 1968 and 31st December, 1968 by 38 ex-princes and 11 members of the princely families has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Only 21 of the concerned parties have furnished the information so far. The total amount held in their accounts as on 31st December, 1968 stood at Rs. 62.2 lakhs. Efforts are being made to collect information from others also.

**Losses in the Oil and Natural Gas  
Commission**

\*589. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission entered into a defective agreement whereby the Commission incurred heavy losses;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into the matter; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

CHEMICALS, AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) With regard to one drilling contract entered into by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission with SNAM S.p.A. of Italy for drilling in Uttar Pradesh, Audit had pointed out that the ONGC had to incur extra avoidable expenditure of Rs. 8.46 lakhs on account of, among other things, faulty wording of one the provisions of the contract. The Commission has not accepted that there had been any loss on account of the alleged defective wording of the contract.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. It has been found that the Commission cannot be said to have incurred any avoidable expenditure as suggested by Audit on account of the alleged defective wording of the contract.

**Methanol Plant at Trombay Unit of FCI**

\*590. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the original reformer catalyst supplied by the contractors for the Methanol Plant at Trombay unit of the Fertiliser Corporation of India was a total failure;

(b) if so, the action taken against the Contractors;

(c) the name of the party who supplied the new catalyst which enabled production at 60 per cent of the rated capacity;

(d) whether the problem of locating a proper substitute catalyst has now been solved and fully rated capacity being utilised; and

(e) if not, by when this will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND  
CHEMICALS AND MINES AND  
METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a)  
Yes, Sir.

(b) Having failed to settle the issue amicably with the contractors FCI has refer-