

per cent on Income-tax, the collection of Income-tax and Corporation Tax during the year 1966-67 declined absolutely and/or as compared to budgeted figures;

(b) if so, whether it is a case of diminishing returns on Income-tax; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to reverse the trend?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) The collections of Income-tax and Corporation Tax during 1966-67 amounted to Rs 628.73 crores against the Budget Estimate of Rs 666.22 crores. Though these collections have fallen short of budget estimates, they were up by Rs 52.09 crores as compared to the collections of Rs 576.64 crores during 1965-66.

(b) No, Sir. The collections in a year depend on the trade conditions in the year.

(c) Does not arise.

Assistance for Drought-Affected Areas

*982 Shri Eswara Reddy:

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state.

(a) the total amount provided by the Centre for assistance to the drought and scarcity affected areas in 1967-68,

(b) the State-wise allocation of this assistance, and

(c) whether this assistance will be given to the State in lumpsum to be used at State's discretion or it will be released on the basis of specific schemes prepared by the States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) and (b). The Central Budget for 1967-68 includes a provision of Rs 63.00 crores as loans and Rs 12.00 as grants, for assistance to scarcity affected States. The distribution of this provision will depend upon the requirements

from time to time and State-wise allocation of it cannot be made in advance.

(c) The Central assistance is available for certain broad categories of expenditure, ceilings for which are fixed in consultation with the State Government concerned and on the basis of the report of a team of officers deputed by the Centre to visit the State and assess the requirements. Within the broad categories, the details of specific schemes are worked out by the State Governments themselves. The assistance is generally by way of reimbursement of actual expenditure. However if the expenditure is expected to be substantial and the ways and means position of the State Government concerned justifies it, suitable advance releases of Central assistance are made on a provisional basis, subject to later adjustments on the basis of actual expenditure.

Practising of Untouchability

*983. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the nine recommendations regarding the practising of untouchability made in the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1965-66 on pages 53 to 55; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve upon the inhuman conditions under which the so-called untouchables are living?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are already implementing various schemes in the Backward Classes Sector of the Five Year Plans to improve the social, economic and educational conditions of the Scheduled Castes. A special Committee appointed in 1965 is also engaged in a detailed investigation of the problem of untouchability, and review of the

Schemes hitherto undertaken to deal with this problem.

सिंचाई योजनाएँ

- * 984. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :
श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह :
श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री :
श्री आत्म दास :
श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री :

क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को यह निदेश दिया है कि वे अपने वर्तमान आय-व्ययों में सिंचाई को प्राथमिकता दें;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि राज्य सरकारों ने सिंचाई के लिये बहुत थोड़ी राशि नियत की है ,

(ग) यदि हा, तो क्या खाद्य समस्या हल करने पर इसका प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा ,

(घ) यदि हा, तो क्या सरकार ने सिंचाई के लिये पर्याप्त व्यवस्था की है , और

(ङ) यदि हा, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री (डा० कु० ल० राव) : (क) जी, हा ।

(ख) से (ङ) जिस गति से कार्य चल रहे हैं उसको देखते हुए नियत राशि का अक्षरत से काम है । व्यय की राशियों में उचित परिवर्तन करके सिंचाई के लिए वर्तमान प्रावधानों को किन्ना बढ़ाया जा सकता है, इसके बारे में विचार-विमर्श हो रहा है ।

Drop in Rural Business of L.I.C.

*985. श्री H. N. Makerjee: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the rural business of the Life Insurance Corporation of India has shown a significant drop between 1963 and 1966;

(b) if so, what are the relevant figures, and

(c) whether steps have been taken towards decentralising servicing work to the branch level and using regional languages in order to reach the countryside effectively?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The rural business of the LIC during the financial year 1-1-1962 to 31-3-1963 was Rs 233.5 crores equivalent to an annual figure of Rs 186.8 crores. Since the new business during the financial year 1965-66 was Rs 220.6 crores, there was an increase during the period between 1963 and 1966.

(c) Yes, Sir

इसोराईल-अरब संघर्ष के बारे में भारत के वृष्टिकोण के कारण अनाज तथा वित्तीय सहायता पर प्रभाव

*986 श्री क० वि० मधुकर :
श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :
श्री कामेश्वर सिंह :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या अरब-इसराइली संघर्ष के दौरान सरकार द्वारा अपनाई गई नीति के कारण भारत को अमरीका द्वारा दी जाने वाली अनाज की मात्रा तथा वित्तीय सहायता में कोई कमी की जाने वाली है जिसका अमरीका के सेनेटर, मि० विलियम ओ० फोउगट ने हाल के अपने वक्तव्य में आभास दिया है ; और