

. Since the leaders of the TULF were not present in Colombo during the second visit, these proposals will be discussed with them by the Special Envoy.

#### **Performance of Rural Employment Generation Programme**

611. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the State-wise progress of the Rural Employment Generation Programme in physical and financial terms to-date since January, 1980; and

(b) whether Government are satisfied with the progress achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATHA MISRA): (a) The state-wise progress under National Rural Employment Programme in physical and financial terms since inception is given in the enclosed statement [See Appendix CXXVIII Annexure No. 24].

(b) In the Sixth Five Year Plan annual generation of 300 to 400 million mandays under National Rural Employment Programme has been indicated for the country as a whole. This target has been achieved every year since inception of this programme and it is expected that it will also be achieved during 1983-84.

#### **National Rural Employment Generation Programme**

612. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the State-wise monetary and food-grains assistance given by the Central Government on account of National Rural Employment Generation Programme year-wise, from 1980-81 to 1983-84?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATHA MISRA): A statement indicating state-wise position of central assistance given as cash funds and food-grains under National Rural Employment Programme during the years 1980-81 to 1983-84 is enclosed. [See Appendix CXXVIII, Ann, No. 25].

#### **Education Budget**

611. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the academic circles in the country have urged Government to allocate at least 10 per cent of central budgetary expenses for education;

(b) whether Government have any plan to increase budgetary allocation for education; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (c) There have been suggestions from various quarters to increase budgetary provisions for education. Investment in education has indeed been steadily increasing. However, every effort is made to secure further increases.

#### **Agreement on Construction cost of Second Hooghly Bridge**

614. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have reached an agreement with the Government of West Bengal on the construction cost for the Second Hooghly bridge; and