

In case of Marathwada region irrigation schemes with an irrigation potential of 4.72 lakh hectares have been taken up and an irrigation potential of 1.72 lakh hectares was created up to June, 1982. The total irrigation potential created in Marathwada region up to June, 1982 including the completed schemes is 3.13 lakh hectares.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and funds for execution of irrigation projects are provided by State Governments themselves within their overall development plans. Central assistance to the States is given in the form of block loans/grants and is not tied to any particular sector of development or project.

(b) The more important reasons for delay in the implementation of irrigation schemes are mainly:

- (i) spreading of re-sources by taking too many projects at a time;
- (ii) escalations in prices;
- (iii) difficulties in land acquisition;
- (iv) inadequate initial investigations for preparation of projects;
- (v) changes in the scope of projects during implementation stage;
- (vi) scarcity of scarce resources like cement, steel, explosives etc. and skilled man-power at different periods of construction of projects.

Abnormal rate of population growth

2605. SHRI LADLI MOHAN
NIGAM:
SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO
DHABE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have identified any areas where rate of population growth has been abnormal in the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the names of such areas and what steps are being taken to popularise family planning in such areas or States with a crash programme; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to make a survey in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) State-wise growth rates are based on census figures and these are not calculated year-wise. In respect of States lagging behind in performance area specific approach is being followed. A scheme for strengthening of Health, Family Welfare and M.C.H. infrastructure in 46 backward districts of 12 States with assistance from International agencies has also been taken up.

Scarcity of wheat, rice etc. in the ration shops in Delhi

2606. DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exists an acute scarcity of wheat, rice and other commodities at the ration shops in Delhi and the consumers are not supplied the full quota of rations; and

(b) whether Government are aware that the F.P.S. owners do not lift supply from the Food Corporation of India godowns on the plea that the quality of Wheat etc. is not good and the rationed commodities are picked up for issue in the last days of the draw when the consumers cannot draw their rations and these articles are sold in the black market by these shopkeepers and if so, what action Government propose to take against such F.P.S. owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND