

be settled bilaterally in an amicable manner. However, in order to expedite the settlement of this question, the Union Minister of Irrigation offered his good offices to discuss the matter with the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Such a meeting has not yet taken place. However, it is expected to be held shortly.]

Change in the terms and composition of benches of the High Courts and the Supreme Court

20. SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to change the terms and composition of the Benches of High Courts and the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Benches of the Supreme Court and the High Courts for hearing different kinds of matter are constituted by the respective Chief Justices.

Pension scheme for A.I.R./Doordarshan staff artistes

21. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1213 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th June, 1980 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the question of granting pension to the staff artistes of All India Radio and Doordarshan; if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure that the staff artistes in the production cadre of the All India

Radio and the Doordarshan get proper production opportunities in services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (MISS KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) A proposal to convert staff artistes of All India Radio and Doordarshan who are at present contract employees, into regular Government employees is under consideration of the Government. If it is decided to accept the proposal, the staff Artistes will automatically become eligible for grant of pension.

(b) Staff Artistes in the production cadre are given full opportunities for production of programmes consistent with the facilities available at a particular station of All India Radio/kendra of Doordarshan, keeping in view the duties and responsibilities attached to individual posts.

Area of unirrigated land in the country

22. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any exercises in consultation with State Governments to exactly know the area of unirrigated land in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether any exercises have also been made to fill up the gap within a targeted period of time; if so, the details of the proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Data on unirrigated area are not collected separately. The difference between the net area sown and the net irrigated area is taken as the land area sown under unirrigated conditions.

(b) The latest provisional statistical information available is for the year 1977-78. A statement showing the net area sown, the net area irrigated

and the unirrigated area (as difference of the first two) in India during

(मोटेपे आस) 'पसोपुने स! 82-2261

(c) Yes, Sir. On the basis of a broad assessment made in consultation with the State Governments, it has been estimated that a gross potential of 113 million hectares can be developed in the country. Of this, 58 million hectares would be through major and medium irrigation and 55 million hectares through minor irrigation including 40 million hectares from ground water sources. As upto June, 1980 it is anticipated that 56.7 million hectares of gross potential has been created leaving a balance of 56.3 million hectares.

It is now being aimed that the remaining potential of 56.3 million hectares should be created by 2000 A.D. Some of the important aspects of the

strategy evolved to achieve this objective are:—

(i) Completion of all on going projects in a time bound manner.

(ii) Modernisation of existing old irrigation systems.

(iii) Optimisation of benefits through better operation including conjunctive use of surface and ground waters.

(iv) Improved implementation programme through detailed advance planning for construction and operation as well as close monitoring;

(v) Completion of investigations of new projects to be taken up in the next Five Years, so that a shelf of well investigated projects is available for being taken up.

Statement

Net sown area, net irrigated area and unirrigated area in India during 1977-78 (Provisional)

State/Union Territory	Net sown area	Net irrigated area	Un-irrigated area difference of Col. 2-Col.3
Andhra Pradesh	10,918	3,359	7,559
Assam	2,679*	572†	2,107
Bihar	8,579	2,913	5,666
Gujarat	9,524 @	1,617*	7,907
Haryana	3,645	1,874	1,771
Himachal Pradesh	560	90	470
Jammu & Kashmir	714	305	409
Karnataka	10,218	1,388	8,830
Kerala	2,201	228	1,973
Madhya Pradesh	18,798	2,153	16,645
Maharashtra	18,245	1,896	16,349

State/Union Territory	Net sown area	Net irrigated area	Un-irrigated areadifference o Col. 2- Col. 3
Manipur†	140	65	75
Meghalaya	178	47	131
Nagaland	182	54	128
Orissa	5,997	1,071	4,926
Punjab	4,171	3,286	885
Rajasthan	15,168	2,765	12,403
Sikkim	61	10	51
Tamil Nadu	6,295	2,836	3,459
Tripura	246	29	217
Uttar Pradesh	17,421	8,493	8,928
West Bengal	6,185 _£	1,489@@	4,696
Union Territories	481	125	356
All India	1,42,606	36,665	1,05,941

*Estimated.

(†)Relates to the year 1953-54.

(@) Relates to the year 1976-77.

(‡) *Ad hoc* estimates.

(£) Relates to the year 1973-74.

(@@) Relates to the year 1967-68.

Losses suffered by fertilizers units

23. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after the reorganisation of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited and the National Fertilizer Limited into 5 companies, the production and the losses incurred in the fertilizer factories have increased from Rs. 52.58 crores (upto June, 1979) to Rs. 122.70 crores in 1979-80;

(b) if so, what are the details of the various steps taken by Government to improve the situation;

(c) what is the production of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited from 1st June, 1980 to 15th October, 1980; and

(d) what are the losses in production in these five months; factory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Of the five companies formed out of the erstwhile Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited and National Fertilizer Ltd. Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. made profits during 1978-79 and 1979-80 and National Fertilizer Ltd. made profits in 1978-79, taking all the five companies together the net loss