

draft in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh on 25-2-1980 i.e., just three months after the rolls were finally published last year. In this sense it is true that this is the first time that the electoral rolls have been taken up for revision after a very short interval.

However, in 1976, also, the Election Commission decided to up-to-date the electoral rolls prepared with reference to 1-1-1975 as the qualifying date and which had been finally published on 28-2-1975. A summary revision of electoral rolls with reference to 1-1-1976 as the qualifying date was undertaken and the rolls so revised were finally published on 16-3-1976.

(d) and (e) Presumably, the reference is to the missing of names of voters from the electoral rolls. Complaints were received in the Election Commission, on the dates of poll and subsequently, regarding the omission/deletion of names of eligible voters from the electoral rolls. Most of the complaints were of general nature alleging large scale omission of names in the electoral rolls. It was not, therefore, possible to ascertain the correctness of the complaints and take action thereon.

#### **Indo-Bangladesh agreement on the augmentation of Ganga flow**

350. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

SHRIMATI HAMIDA  
HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladesh has asked the Government of India for a revision of the 1977 agreement on augmentation of the Ganga flow; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Legal aid to the poor**

351. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA  
REDDY:

SHRI NARASINGHA

PRASAD NANDA:

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

DR. V. P. DUTT:

SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 2 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th January, 1980 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report from the inter-departmental Committee, which was set up to examine the recommendations of the Bhagwati Committee on legal aid to the poor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No, Sir. However, the report of the Inter Departmental Committee is likely to be received soon.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Lowering of voting age**

352. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:

SHRI S. KUMARAN:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the question of lowering of voting age to 18 years;

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

(c) whether Government have estimated the number of electorates bet-

when the age of 18 and 21 years, State-wise;

(d) whether some of the State Governments have already lowered the voting age to 18 years for the purpose of holding elections to local Boards, etc.; and

(e) if so, what are the names of those States?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Such an estimate was made in 1978 with reference to the position as on 1-3-1978. A statement setting out the same is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) According to the information received from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have reduced the voting age for Panchayat elections from 21 years to 18 years and Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Rajasthan and West Bengal have reduced the minimum voting age for elections to Municipal Corporations/Municipalities from 21 years to 18 years.

#### Statement

*Population above 18, and below 21 years of age for a India States and Union Territories as on 1-3-1977.*

| Name of the State                      | No. of Estimated Electors |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh . . . . .            | 29,59,500                 |
| 2. Assam (including Mizoram) . . . . . | 11,34,800                 |
| 3. Bihar . . . . .                     | 37,78,800                 |
| 4. Gujarat . . . . .                   | 19,60,600                 |
| 5. Haryana . . . . .                   | 7,68,400                  |
| 6. Himachal Pradesh . . . . .          | 2,27,300                  |
| 7. Jammu & Kashmir . . . . .           | 3,32,800                  |
| 8. Karnataka . . . . .                 | 20,51,100                 |
| 9. Kerala . . . . .                    | 15,41,200                 |
| 10. Madhya Pradesh . . . . .           | 28 37,300                 |
| 11. Maharashtra . . . . .              | 34,72,000                 |
| 12. Manipur . . . . .                  | 82,000                    |
| 13. Meghalaya . . . . .                | 77,300                    |
| 14. Nagaland . . . . .                 | 42,300                    |
| 15. Orissa . . . . .                   | 15 74,800                 |
| 16. Punjab . . . . .                   | 9,89,100                  |
| 17. Rajasthan . . . . .                | 18,51,800                 |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 18. Sikkim . . . . .                    | 16,500             |
| 19. TamilNadu . . . . .                 | 26,96,400          |
| 20. Tripura . . . . .                   | 1,14,200           |
| 21. Uttari Pradesh, . . . . .           | 56,26,200          |
| 22. West Bengal . . . . .               | 31,77,200          |
| 23. Andaman & Nicobar Islands . . . . . | 10,800             |
| 24. Arunachal Pradesh . . . . .         | 34,300             |
| 25. Chandigarh . . . . .                | 30,200             |
| 26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli . . . . .      | 4,700              |
| 27. Delhi . . . . .                     | 3,50,100           |
| 28. Goa, Daman & Diu . . . . .          | 69,300             |
| 29. Lakshadweep . . . . .               | 1,500              |
| 30. Pondicherry, . . . . .              | 31,900             |
| <b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>                  | <b>3,81,34,800</b> |

— Board on the projections III approved by the Expert on Population projections.

#### Graft cases in DAVP

353. SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of graft and corruption in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity have come to Government's notice recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) Yes Sir, Some instances of irregularities in awarding work to printers have come to Government's notice recently.

(b) The allegations are under enquiry and the investigation is in progress.

#### Display of socially motivated films on T.V.

354. SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay down new criteria with regard to censorship and display of films on T.V. laying emphasis on the social objectives;

(b) whether Government also propose to provide additional assistance to