

(c) the names of the districts covered by the scheme and the estimated number of persons likely to be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Teesta Barrage Project is being implemented by the Government of West Bengal from out of their plan resources and about Rs. 15 crores have been spent up to June, 1978.

(b) Necessary infrastructure facilities are being created and work on the main canal has already been started. The work on the barrages will be in full swing this year.

(c) The project under implementation is planned to provide irrigation to about 3 lakh ha. in Darjeeling, Dinajpur, Malda and Jalpaiguri districts and will benefit about 55 lakhs of people.

Facilities for getting accommodation transferred to sons/daughters in Government service

*71. SHRI BHAGATRAM

MANHAR:

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:

SHRI SWAMI DINESH

CHANDRA:

SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH

ANAND:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the facility enjoyed by the Central Government employees of getting allotment of Government accommodation made to them transferred in the name of their sons or daughters employed in Government service after their retirements has been withdrawn; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SINKANDAR BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Staff side of the National Council (JCM) was pressing for the withdrawal of this concession, as this has led to senior employees with 20 to 25 years of service being denied Government accommodation while employees with a few years of service get accommodation on retirement of their parents. The demand was considered reasonable and accepted.

Production of jute in the country

*72. SHRI VISWANATHA

MENON:

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA.

NAIDU:

SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of raw jute in the country has declined during the last ten years posing a danger to the export performance of the jute manufacturers in the country; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) No, Sir. Although the production of jute in the country has fluctuated in recent years, the overall rate of growth has shown an increasing trend.

(b) Question does not arise. However, a comprehensive Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Jute District Programme has been launched by Government of India to increase jute production in the country since 1972-73.