

## Statement

The State Government had proposed an outlay of Rs. 246 lakhs for urban development in the State's Annual Plan proposal for 1977-78, and after discussions, the Planning Commission had approved an outlay of Rs. 230 lakhs, leaving the break-up to the discretion of the State Government. This outlay includes an earmarked outlay of Rs. 74 lakhs for environmental improvement of slums which is part of the Minimum Needs Programme.

In addition, the State Government has sent proposals for assistance under the Integrated City Development Programme for Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam urban areas and for taking up projects for the Hyderabad-Secunderabad city under the Six Point Formula Programme. Their request is for central assistance to support a total programme of Rs. 577.70 lakhs for Hyderabad-Secunderabad city and Rs. 207.84 lakhs for Visakhapatnam.

**National Irrigation Scheme**

\*225. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO; SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA;

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

(a) whether Government are considering a national irrigation scheme involving an investment of 15,000 to 20,000 crores of rupees; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

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

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(a) and (b) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation schemes are

being planned and implemented by the State Governments. After independence, irrigation facilities have doubled. At present, about 27 per cent of the gross cropped area is irrigated. Owing to uneven distribution of rainfall both in space and time, there is need for storage and planning the use of waters on regional basis. Accordingly, an integrated system of irrigation is necessary. However, before investigations for such long-term scheme are taken up it is essential to first study, in depth, the position of surpluses and shortages in various basins, sub-basins and regions and determine possibilities for inter-basin and interregional transfer of waters taking into consideration the minimum needs of drought prone areas. Such a study is on hand by the Central Water Commission.

It is too early to arrive at precise cost estimates. But for doubling the area irrigated at present, it is estimated that it would cost not less than Rs. 30,000 crores.

**Hunger Strike by Members of the Co-operative Group Housing Societies in Delhi**

\*226. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that some members of the Co-operative Group Housing Societies in Delhi recently resorted to hunger strike;

(b) if so, what are the demands of those Societies; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) It is not in the knowledge of the Government that some members of Co-operative Group Housing Societies recently resorted to