

(PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b) The Central Government has remained in touch with the State Governments so that measures are taken within the available resources to meet some of the major requirements of the students. The situation is being kept under constant review by the Governments concerned. Mention may be made in this connection of the Third All-India Educational Survey which is currently in progress in collaboration with the State Governments to assess, *inter-alia*, the educational requirements of the students at different levels. The report of the survey is awaited.

Visit to Orissa for boosting agricultural production

821. SHRI L. MAHAPATRO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture visited Orissa on 17th July, 1974 for discussing and devising measure for boosting agricultural production in that State;

(b) whether the State Government submitted a memorandum to them on the subject;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken on the memorandum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The memorandum submitted by the State Government contained measures and proposals for increasing agricultural production in the State. These mainly dealt with the intensification of the minor irrigation programmes such as deep tube-wells, shallow tube-wells and dugwells; rural electrification for energisation of tube-wells etc. for which additional funds were required. As regards demand for additional funds, the present decision is that such requirements for priority sector may be met by reappropriation from within the approved State Plan outlay. The State Government also asked for a special allotment of aluminium for manufacture of conductors for taking power supply to lift irrigation

points. A special allocation of 5,000 tonnes of electric conductor grade aluminium has been made to the State Governments (including Orissa) largely for cable manufacture through small-scale units.

Gopalpur Port in Orissa

822. SHRI L. MAHAPATRO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gopalpur Port in Orissa is not making any headway in its construction for want of allocation of necessary funds by the Central Government;

(b) what is the total estimate of the project and what amounts have been allocated by the Central Government for the same and when;

(c) whether the work of the Indian Rare Earth Corporation is seriously affected by the delay in the construction of the Port; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government in starting the construction work during the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) to (d) Development of Gopalpur Port was one of the Centrally sponsored schemes in the 4th Plan and a loan assistance of Rs. 5.22 lakhs was made by the Central Government in favour of the State Government during the 4th Plan.

Towards the end of 1973, the State Government prepared a scheme for development of a Commercial-cum-Fishing Harbour at Gopalpur. The Fishing Harbour was estimated to cost Rs. 64 lakhs and the Commercial Harbour Rs. 526 lakhs, the latter having a provision for a separate berth for Indian Rare Earths Ltd. The provision in the draft 5th Plan for Centrally sponsored minor ports schemes is limited only to Spill-over schemes and no outlay has been provided for new schemes. Any new scheme relating to minor ports like the Commercial-cum-Fishing Harbour at Gopalpur (including a berth for Indian Rare Earths Ltd.) will have to be provided for by the State Government as part of the State Plan.