

Environmental Improvements to Slums in Bangalore

*78. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schemes sponsored by the Central Government for carrying out environmental improvements in Bangalore have been executed; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what are the details of the schemes which are pending consideration by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHOLA PASWAN SHASTRI): (a) 66 Projects approved at a total estimated cost of Rs. 80,91,280/- are being executed at Bangalore. According to the progress reports received in March, 1974 a sum of Rs. 74,72,461 had been spent on these schemes.

(b) As the Scheme has been transferred to the State Sector with effect from 1st April, 1974, the question does not arise.

Starvation deaths on account of non-availability of food

*79. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any reports of starvation deaths from any part of the country due to acute scarcity of food in ration shops and high prices in the open market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE):

(a) and (b) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Haryana, Punjab, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Delhi and Pondicherry have

reported that there has been no death due to starvation. The replies from the remaining States are still awaited. The information will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

Construction of ship-building yard at Cochin

*80. SHRI S. KUMARAN:
SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMUAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of construction of the ship-building yard at Cochin; and

(b) what amount has so far been spent and how much is proposed to be spent during the year 1974-75?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLA-PATI TRIPATHI): (a) Infra-structure works like land acquisition, reclamation, roads, construction stage water and power supply arrangements etc. have been completed. Among major works, Training School complex has been completed and training of artisans has been initiated. Power receiving station, Outfitting Warehouse, Mould Loft and compressor room are nearing completion. Laboratory is ready for commissioning. Hull shop foundation works almost completed and fabrication and erection of superstructure is in progress. Steel Sheet piling and anchor walling in Building Dock nearly completed. Sheet piling in Quay No. 93 is in progress. Contractor's imported machinery for the work on Docks and Quays have arrived at site and the work is expected to accelerate shortly. Laying of rails for railway siding has been commenced. All the long-lead plant and machinery have been ordered