

**HOOGHLY RIVER BRIDGE AT
PRINCEP GHAT POINT**

1101. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news published in Hindustan Standard dated 20th, 22nd April, 1973 regarding the Hooghly River Bridge at the Princep Ghat point; and the statement made by Shri Moni Sanyal, Chairman of the Bridge Commissioners Board about his removal from the Chairmanship of the Board; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed Hooghly Bridge is essentially a State project and the West Bengal Government are, therefore, primarily concerned with all matters pertaining to this project even though the Government of India have agreed to provide a non-plan loan to meet the expenditure on the project during the 4th Plan assessed at Rs. 8 crores originally. The Hooghly River Bridge Commissioners set up by the West Bengal Government under their Hooghly Bridge Act, 1969 falls within the domain of West Bengal Government. The issue of the removal of the Chairman of the Hooghly River Bridge Commissioners, therefore, is primarily a concern of the State Government.

**QUOTA OF WHEAT AND RICE TO
CONSUMERS**

1102. SHRI C. P. MAJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the quotas to consumers of wheat and rice have been reduced by half since its taking over ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**CRASH PROGRAMME FOR RURAL
EMPLOYMENT**

1103. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports from State Governments regarding the progress of expenditure in the implementations of Rs. 50 crore crash programme for rural employment during 1972-73;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and how those figures vary from the preceding year; and

(c) the allocations and targets fixed during 1973-74 under the scheme?

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

(b) A statement-I showing the expenditure reported for the year 1972-73 is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A statement-II showing allocations for the year 1973-74 is laid on the Table of The House. The targets for employment have to be fixed by the States and Union Territories in accordance with the prevailing rate of wages which varies from State to State. On an average for every expenditure of Rs. 1 lakh generation of 20,000 mandays of employment is expected. For the country as a whole the generation of 875 lakh mandays of employment is expected.