

ernment of Kerala was approved by the Government of India in December, 1972. The revised project involves an estimate of Rs. 111.96 lakhs and envisages development of Bepore as a commercial-cum-cargo harbour.

COST OF PRODUCTION SUGAR AND SUGARCANE

164. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total cost of pro-

duction of sugarcane and sugar respectively Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): The data on cost of production of sugarcane for important cane-growing States at present available relate to the late 'fifties'. Later estimates pertaining to the 'sixties' for selected districts based on studies into the economics of farm management are given below:—

(In Rs. per quintal)			
District /State	Period	Type	Total cost*
Muzaffarnagar (U.P.)	1966-67 to 1968-69	<i>Irrigated:</i>	
		(a) Planted	4.59
		(b) Ratoon	3.58
Deoria (U.P.)	1966-67 to 1968-69	<i>Irrigated :</i>	
		(a) Planted	5.07
		(b) Ratoon	4.83
		<i>Unirrigated:</i>	
		(a) Planted	5.25
		(b) Ratoon	4.85
Rohtak, Karnal, and Jind Tehsil (Haryana)	1961-62 to 1963-64	Irrigated	2.91

*Total cost includes, besides actual cash and kind expenses, the imputed cost of family labour, rental value of owned land and interest on owned fixed capital.

Recently, the Government have undertaken a comprehensive scheme for studying the cost of cultivation of principal crops including sugarcane.

The Tariff Commission has recently completed its latest study of the cost structure of the sugar industry and a statement indicating the cost of production of sugar will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as action on it is completed.

CONFERENCE OF INDIAN ACADEMY OF PAEDIATRICS

165. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1/3 of the babies born in India never live beyond the age of 5 years according to the recent conference of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics at Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI KONDAJJI BASAPPA): (a) and (b) The statement made in the Conference of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics that one-third of the babies born in India do not live beyond the age of 5 years is not a fact. According to the present mortality situation, the proportion of children likely to die before the age of 5 years is one-fifth or less.

(c) The Government have undertaken the following measures to improve the chances of survival and the health of children:

1. Provision of health and nutrition supplements to pregnant mothers.

2. Provision of facilities for safe child-birth in homes and training of indigenous dais.

3. Provision of preventive and promotional services for the health of infants and children like immunisations and untrition supplements.

4. Special health and nutrition programmes for children enrolled in schools.

5. Developing the speciality of Paediatrics in hospitals.

6. Helping individual couples to plan small family of 2 or 3 children.

PROGRESS OF HOUSING SCHEMES

166. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Housing schemes sponsored by his Ministry have not made much headway during the last two years;

(b) if so, the number of houses built during 1971 and 1972 with the

help provided by Government under different schemes;

(c) the progress made by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation during the last two years and

(d) the steps now proposed by Government to speed up housing programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However it has not been possible to make allocation of funds of a size that could make a sizeable dent on the problem due to other priorities.

The number of houses built under the various social housing schemes during 1971 and 1972 is given below:

No. of houses built	
(during 1971)	30,093
No. of houses built	
during 1972	22,811

(c) The Housing and Urban Development Corporation which was set up on the 15th April, 1970, has already sanctioned loans amounting to Rs. 5205 lakhs for 44 housing schemes in 13 States involving construction of 42,224 housing units and development of 20,000 plots of various categories. The projects are reported to be at various stages of implementation.

(d) During the Fourth Five Plan (1969-74), Central assistance for all State Sector programmes is being given to the States by the Ministry of Finance in the form of "block loans" and "block grants" without being tied to any particular scheme or programme. The State Governments are thus competent to allocate funds to any particular scheme or programme according to priorities and requirements to be determined by them. During the State Housing Ministers' Conferences, Annual Plan discussions and other meetings held from time to time, the State Governments are advised to give greater priority to the implementation of various social housing schemes. Besides the Housing and Urban