

contribution of wheat o additional pro-
duction amounted to 2.6 million ton-
nes and that of Summer rice 0.73 mil-
lion tonnes. This increase in Rabi|
Summer production partly counter-
balanced the decline in Kharif food-
grains production.]

BREAK THROUGH IN RICE PRODUCTION

*584. DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:
SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH
MUSAFIR:
SHRI J. S. TILAK:
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) when do Government expect a break through in rice production; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE):
(a) and (b). A statement is laid on
the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b). A break-through in rice production comparable to that of wheat is yet to be achieved. However, production has increased from 30.59 million tonnes in 1965-66 to 42.73 million tonnes in 1971-72. Slow progress in the case of rice is due to the fact that the available high yielding varieties have not fared well in water logged conditions which predominate in the major rice growing areas of the country during the kharif season. Further, the susceptibility of these varieties to pests and diseases is much higher than the traditional varieties. Nevertheless these varieties have shown encouraging results during rabi-summer seasons in most of the states and in kharif season in those states and in kharif season in those arid conditions.

Under the All-India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project the I.C.A.R. have evolved a number of new high yielding varieties and a Central Sector scheme of district trial-cum-demonstration programme with new rice varieties has been taken up from Rabi 1971-72. Under this scheme released and pre-released varieties are being extensively tested by farmers under field conditions. The results of these trials would help to make a proper choice of varieties suitable for different agro-climatic regions of the country. The problem of pests and diseases is also proposed to be tackled by demonstrating the efficacy of plant protection measures. In addition, measures like intensive development of irrigation and introduction of multiple cropping; adequate and timely supply of inputs like seeds, fertilisers and credit, emphasis on adequate and balanced use of fertilisers, surveillance of pests and diseases and farmers training alongwith national demonstration programme have been taken up. Special efforts are also being made to bring more and more area under rice during rabi-summer season in the eastern and southern States, where irrigation facilities are being augmented. Thus the technological base for rice production has been greatly strengthened and a break-through in rice production may be expected very soon.

संसदीय सचिवालय भवन का निर्माण

*** 585. श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथर :**
 क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ससद् भवन के विस्तार से संबंधित निर्माण कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है और इसके समय पर पूरा न हो सकने के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं ?

†[CONSTRUCTION OF PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT BUILDING

*585. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state by when the work relating to

†[]English translation.

the extension of Parliament House is expected to be completed and the main reasons for not completing the work on schedule?]

निर्माण और आवास मंत्री (श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री) : भवन का निर्माण कार्य दिसम्बर, 1973 तक पूरा होने की आशा है। निर्माण-कार्य के पूरा होने में विलम्ब के मुख्य कारण निम्नलिखित हैं :—

- (1) स्थल पर मौजूद वीरकों को खाली कराने तथा गिराने में विलम्ब।
- (2) प्रारम्भ में इस्गत का न मिलना।
- (3) डिजाइन तथा विनिष्टियों से वाद में परिवर्तन, क्योंकि वैनक्विट हाल आदि के पुनः स्थान निर्धारण का निर्णय किया गया था।

†[THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHOLA PASWAN SHASTRI): The building is expected to be completed by December, 1973. The main reasons for delay in completion of the work are as under:

- (1) Delay in vacating and demolition of existing barracks on the site.
- (2) Non-availability of steel in the initial stage.
- (3) subsequent changes in the design and specification since it was decided to relocate banquet hall etc.]

COMPLETION OF WORKS BY D.D.A.

*586. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the various projects at present under execution by the D.D.A. such as Government buildings, residential flats and the estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon;

(b) whether the work on these projects is progressing according to schedule and if not, the reasons therefor;

†[English translation.]

(c) whether delay in the completion of these projects is likely to raise the cost of construction; and

(d) if so, by how much and the steps contemplated to complete the work according to schedule?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHOLA PASWAN SHASTRI): (a)

Projects	Estimated cost (in crores of Rs.)
(i) Housing	29.70.
(ii) Development of land for future housing schemes and allotment sale of plots.	11.95.
(iii) Environmental improvement of Jhuggies Jhonpries colonies	0.23.
(iv) Improvement of urban villages	0.83
(v) Various other projects such as inter-State bus terminus, cycle market, fruit and vegetable market, D. D. A 's 23 storeyed office building	9.71

(b) The over-all progress is satisfactory. In a few cases, however, there is some delay because of shortage of cement, steel and other materials, non-availability of land due to 'stay orders' from Courts etc.

(c) and (d) It is not possible to assess the likely increase in the cost of projects at this stage. Efforts are made to complete these projects early.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS

*587. SHRI J. S. TILAK:
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:
SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH
MUSAFIR:
DR. Z. A. AHMAD:
SHRIMATI SITA DEVI
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:
SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops opened in the country; and