

whole, the problems of industrial development and licensing have necessarily to be considered and tackled from a national perspective by the Central Government. The views of the State Governments are, however, always given due consideration in the formulation of policies and in the process of licensing.

#### STATUTORY PROTECTION TO SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

674. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the question of providing statutory protection to the small scale industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### PERCENTAGE OF IRRIGATED AREA IN WEST BENGAL

675. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER/सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of the gross irrigated areas compared with the total cropped area is only 23 per cent in West Bengal;

(b) how does this percentage compare with other States;

(c) whether it is not considered inadequate for a chronically food-deficit State like West Bengal; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER/सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI BAIJ NATH KUREEL) : (a) to (c) The gross irrigated area in West Bengal is 29% of the total cropped area. The All India percentage is 23.

(d) Irrigation is very essential for additional crop production all over India and emphasis is therefore being laid in the developmental plans on provision of additional irrigation facilities. In the Fourth Plan a provision of Rs. 953.8 crores has been made for major and medium irrigation projects and provision of Rs. 515.7 crores has also been made for minor irrigation programme administered by the Ministry of Agriculture.

#### CHANGES IN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

676. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL :

SHRI K. C. PANDA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE/विधि और न्याय मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Attorney General Mr. Niren De recently suggested at Allahabad that radical changes in the Judicial system are essential to ensure speedy justice;

(b) if so, whether Government of India has carefully examined the text of his statement; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE/विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHURY) : (a) and (b) Government have seen the Press reports containing the views reported to have been expressed by the Attorney General of India while inaugurating an All India Seminar on "Law's Delay" in Allahabad on 20th March, 1971.

(c) The State authorities have been advised to take the following measures for the speedy disposal of cases :—

(i) The Judge strength in each High Court should be increased to the extent necessary taking into account the institutions and disposals and the volume of case-arrears pending disposal.

(ii) The vacancies in the High Courts should be filled without delay.

(iii) Whenever a serving Judge is diverted to other duties and is not likely to come back to the High Court within six months an Additional or