

+ [THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER/ सिंचाई और बिद्युत  
H«ft (DR. K. L. RAO); (a) to (c) A  
statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## STATEMENT

(a) to (c) The rainfall over the country and the flows in the rivers vary from day to day and year to year. Actual observations of these hydrological data have therefore to be carried out on a continuing basis.

State Governments are observing rainfall, river gauge and river gauge-discharge data at about 3700, 900 and 1000 sites respectively. Central agencies like the India Meteorological Department, Central Water & Power Commission, Ganga Basin Water Resources Organisation are also making observations at some important locations and the corresponding figures for Central Stations are about 600, 20 and 240 respectively.

It has been roughly assessed that the average rainfall volume of the country is 3000 m.a.ft. Out of this 1000 m.a.ft. are lost due to evaporation; about 650 m.a.ft. seep into the soil; and the remaining 1350 m.a.ft. flow in the river systems on an average.

Potential sites for major and medium irrigation projects were investigated in the past and continue to be investigated by the State Governments for exploitation of the country's water resources. Since the initiation of the Plans, 560 major and medium schemes have been taken up so far and the irrigation potential from major and medium irrigation projects, which was 24 million acres in 1951 is, as a result of this, 49 million acres now. The total surface water utilisation, including the smaller schemes, is assessed to be about 180 m.a.ft. against 76 m.a.ft. in 1951.

The Department of Agriculture carry out research in experimental farms to find out the water requirements of various crops. In the irrigation projects, the research data collected by the Agriculture Department as well as the actual performance of existing canal systems is taken into account while constructing new canals. The crop patterns are fixed according to the

[ ] English translation.

advice given by the Agriculture Departments, who examine the soil and other conditions. Such advice is continuously obtained from the Agriculture Department in fixing finally the areas to be brought under irrigation in each village under the project.

Wherever necessary, ayacut development works are also organised by the two Departments in close collaboration. The Agriculture Departments also set up demonstration farms and field research stations in the command of large irrigation projects so that scientific information is disseminated to the farmers through extension services, in addition to organising the supply of adequate inputs, in order to enable farmers to obtain maximum production.

District and State level irrigation committees are set up in the States for supervising the operation of irrigation projects; in these committees, the Departments of Agriculture and Irrigation together review the functioning of canal systems and effect improvements wherever called for.]

## SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS INDUSTRY

\*457. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON :

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state :

whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in 'the Tribune' dated April 11, 1971 about the remarks made by Shri B. L. Mahajan towards the neglecting conditions of the surgical instruments industry in Punjab; and

if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government of India thereto /

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ 3cWtf«W fasfTO l? \*T-5ji?q .xm \*T5f«-(SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : fa) and (b) There is no large scale unit manufacturing surgical instruments in Punjab. As regards small scale units, the requisite information is awaited from the Government of Punjab, which will be laid on the Table of the House.