

kal and Padana Kadappuram in Cannanore District. The Government of India have agreed to provide a special loan assistance to the State Government up to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs during the current financial year outside the State Plan, subject to actual expenditure being incurred in excess of the approved outlay of Rs. 70 lakhs on flood control and anti-sea erosion programmes included in the State Annual Plan of 1970-71. (A Central team will visit the State shortly to make an on the spot assessment of damage and the requirement of funds for restoration).

INCREASE IN WATER TAX BY KANGSABATI PROJECT AUTHORITIES IN WEST BENGAL

551. DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state the reason for recent increase in tax for the water supplied by the Kangsabati Project in West Bengal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : The Government of West Bengal have so far not been levying any water rates on the areas irrigated by the Kangsabati Project. Irrigation projects involve large investments and their facilities are available only to the people in the command areas. It is, therefore, appropriate that the beneficiaries should pay for them to the maximum extent possible and not impose a burden on the rest of the community. The Government of West Bengal have, therefore, proposals under consideration to levy water rates on the Kangsabati Project irrigation areas, just as they are already levying water rates on area irrigated by the Mayurakshi, Damodar and other projects in the State.

HELP TO THE FAMILIES OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS IN WEST BENGAL

552. DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to help the family members of the West Bengal Government servants who lost their lives on duty either by offering suitable employment to their dependents and/or educational facilities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL IN

THE CABINET SECRETARIAT (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the Government of West Bengal and shall be laid on the Table of the House. However, according to the information already received from the Government of West Bengal, the State Government have introduced a Group Insurance Scheme for the Police Personnel in that State providing for insurance against death and injuries in course of duty.

POLITICAL MURDERS IN WEST BENGAL

553. DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many political murders have been committed in West Bengal in the first 10 months of this year; and

(b) what were the corresponding figures in 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) According to information received from the Government of West Bengal, 226 political murders have been committed in the State in the first 10 months of this year.

(b) Information is being collected from the State Government.

RETRENCHMENT OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FORCE PERSONNEL

554. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON :
SHRI NIREN GHOSH :
SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-
YAL :
SHRI SALIL KUMAR GAN-
GULY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of West Bengal National Volunteer Force personnel belonging to Barrackpore and 24 Parganas divisions have been retrenched recently;

(b) if so, the total number of personnel retrenched so far; and

(c) the reasons for the retrenchment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.