

(c) when the national income calculations for 1968-69 will be completed by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. G. SETHI) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The rise in national income is mainly attributable to recovery in agriculture.

(c) 'Quick' estimates, at 1960-61 prices, are likely to be released shortly.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMINE-STRICKEN PEOPLE OF RAJASTHAN

91. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had accepted a suggestion to send a team of doctors from Delhi to render assistance to the famine affected people in Rajasthan who are suffering from a peculiar disease, analogous to gastro-enteritis; and

(b) if so, the nature of assistance given and the results achieved in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) Yes.

(b) During the years 1968 and 1969, five teams of doctors from Delhi were sent to investigate the out-breaks of gastroenteritis and the medical and public health facilities provided in the famine stricken areas of Rajasthan. These teams made recommendations to combat the spread of Cholera. Arrangements were made to supply adequate quantities of medicines (Anti-Cholera vaccine, Bleaching powder, Tetracyclin capsules, etc.) during the months from April-May, 1969 to meet the immediate requirements of the Government of Rajasthan. The situation is reported to be improving.

TATA FERTILIZER PLANT; MITHAPUR

92. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAT :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision in regard to the proposal

of the Tatas for setting up a Fertilizer Plant at Mithapur; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) No final decision in regard to the proposal has been taken. The proposal contains some special features which require to be examined carefully from all angles. The promoters have also indicated that they are contemplating some revisions.

Am INDIA CONSORTIUM MEETING IN PARIS

93. SARDAR RAM SINGH :

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :

SHRI YELLA REDDY :

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN :

SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Aid India Consortium held a meeting in Paris recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) Yes, Madam. The Aid India Consortium met in Paris on May 22nd and 23, 1969.

(b) A copy of the Press Release issued by the World Bank at the end of the meeting is placed on the Table of the House.

INDIA CONSORTIUM PRESS RELEASE

May 23, 1969

The Consortium of Governments and institutions interested in development assistance to India met in Paris on May 22 and 23, 1969 under the chairmanship of the World Bank. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. The presence of Sweden as a member of the Consortium for the first time was welcomed.

The International Monetary Fund and the O.E.C.D. see it observers.

The purpose (if the meeting was to re-view the progress of economic development in India and to consider India's aid requirements for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1969 and the terms on which aid should be made available.

A delegation representing the Government of India, led by Dr. I. G. Patel, Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, was present to describe recent economic developments and aid requirements.

The meeting commended the considerable improvements in India's economic situation in 1968-69. All Consortium members welcomed the continuation of the momentum of growth in agricultural production, the substantial recovery in industrial production, the restoration of a stable price level and the efforts made in the last Budget to mobilize additional resources for development. Particular noteworthy was the very good export performance, especially with regard to such items as engineering goods; exports as a whole were 12.5 percent above those of 1967-68. Members also commended steps India was taking to extend the Family Planning Programme, for which budgetary appropriations during the next five years are planned at a level 12 times the amount spent during the Third plan period.

It was agreed that India needed substantial new commitments of non-project as well as project aid if the general recovery of the economy was to be maintained and consolidated. Members agreed that, for the year which began April 1, 1969 India required non-project assistance of about \$700 million, including approximately \$200 million in the form of debt relief. Towards this total of \$700 million most members indicated the contributions they would be able to make subject to necessary approvals, and others expected to be able to do so later in the year.

India's need for increased project assistance as an essential complement to non-project aid was also recognised, and consortium members agreed that India's request for \$410 million was reasonable and that effort would be made to meet it.

It was generally agreed that a further improvement in the terms of aid was desirable and several members in fact, announced such improvements.

ग्रामों में बिजली का पहुंचाया जाना

94. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :

श्री मान सिंह वर्मा :

क्या सिंचाई तथा विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गांधी शताब्दी वर्ष में देश में अधिक गांवों में बिजली पहुंचाने का एक लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक राज्य में अब तक कितने गांवों में बिजली पहुंचाई जा चुकी है ?

•f [ELECTRIFICATION OF VILLAGES

94. SHRI J. P. YADAV :

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the targets fixed for the Gandhi Centenary year was the electrification of maximum number of villages in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of villages electrified in each State till now ?]

सिंचाई तथा विद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (प्रोफेसर सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) देश में गांधी जी शताब्दी वर्ष के अन्त तक अर्थात् 2 अक्टूबर, 1970 तक कुल एक लाख ग्रामों का विद्युतीकरण करने का प्रस्ताव है परन्तु यह बत की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करता है ।

(ख) 31-3-1969 तक 69,991 ग्रामों का विद्युतीकरण हो चुका था । राज्यवार तथा संघीय प्रदेशवार बिजली लगाये गये ग्रामों का विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है ।

[] English translation.