

headed by Mr. Bernard Bell is shortly visiting India;

(b) if so, what is the purpose of the Mission's visit;

(c) whether the various suggestions made by the previous Bell Mission in regard to India's economic development had been considered by Government; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI SACHINDRA CHAUDHURI):

(a) The World Bank mission headed by Mr. Bernard Bell was in India for about five weeks commencing from the last week of September, 1966.

(b) The mission was engaged on an appraisal of the Fourth Plan in preparation for consideration by the Aid-India Consortium of their own role therein.

(c) No specific suggestion was made to the Government of India by the previous Bell Mission in regard to India's economic development.

(d) The question does not arise.

TAMING OF GHAGGAR RIVER

*196. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to tame the river Ghaggar in order to relieve the people in North India, who suffer from the fury of this river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

River Ghaggar drains parts of Punjab and Haryana and then enters Rajasthan where it disappears in the sand dunes. In Punjab and Haryana a number of schemes for diverting and utilising the flood waters of Ghaggar including some storage schemes, have been undertaken and

others are under investigation. To deal with the problem of floods in Rajasthan, a scheme for diverting 12,000 cusecs of the flood waters of Ghaggar to the sand dunes west of Suratgarh is in an advanced stage of construction and is expected to be completed before the monsoon of 1967. A scheme to utilize flood waters of Ghaggar for irrigation in Rajasthan is also under consideration. The Rajasthan Government have constructed a number of flood embankments for the protection of villages and towns along the bed of the river Ghaggar.

STAFF CARS IN MINISTRIES

*197. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present total number of staff cars maintained by Government for use by various Ministries and Departments in Delhi; and

(b) the annual maintenance cost therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) As on 11th August 1966 there were 234 staff cars.

(b) Rs. 18,92,246 for the year 1965-66 (including pay and allowances of drivers).

INDIAN INVESTMENT CENTRE

* 98. SHRI B. N. MANDAL:
SHRI A. D. MANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Investment Centre was established;

(b) what are the objects of its establishment and to what extent these objects have been attained so far;

(c) the total cost incurred annually in its running; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Centre proposes to expand its activities in the U.S.A. and Europe?