

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central assistance has been increased from 75 per cent (37½ per cent as loan and 37½ per cent as subsidy) of the approved cost of slum clearance projects to 87½ per cent (50 per cent as loan and 37½ per cent as subsidy). The State Governments/local bodies will provide the remaining 12½ per cent as subsidy, as against 25 per cent under the old pattern of assistance.

Percentage of Irrigated Land in States

*1124. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Sshi Kishen Pattnayak:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Maharashtra, Gujarat, Mysore and Rajasthan have the lowest percentage of irrigated land;

(b) if so, whether they intend to undertake a special programme to increase the irrigated area in these States; and

(c) the main features thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) Yes; Sir. The percentage is low in Madhya Pradesh also.

(b) and (c). While sanctioning new Projects during the Fourth and Fifth Plan periods, the need for increasing the irrigated areas in these states will be kept in view.

Rodent Control Committee

*1125. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri Warrior:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rodent Control Committee has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the measures already taken by Government to devise simple methods of control which farmers can easily use?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) With a view to collect complete data and to make an on-the-spot study of the problem, the members of the Committee have had to visit various places and institutions in the country. These visits have just been completed. The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of April, 1966.

(d) Methods of controlling rates in houses/stores/fields already in vogue consist of poison-baiting with zinc phosphide and fumigation with calcium cyanide dust.

Advertisement Rules

*1126. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 154 on the 11th November, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the rules for limiting tax free expenditure on advertisements have since been finalised; and

(b) if so, what are the rules?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). No, Sir. A large number of representations containing comments and suggestions on the draft rules published in the Gazette of India on 27th August, 1965, were received from the members of the public, trade and business associations etc. These have been carefully examined, and Government is now considering the framing of revised