

S.P.E. Enquiry into Dandakaranya Project Irregularities

745. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Special Police Establishment officials were detailed to inquire into the allegations of certain financial irregularities over purchase of stores and tractor repair work at the Dandakaranya Project;

(b) if so, the particulars of the allegations; and

(c) the results of the inquiries made thereon?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) to (c). An information was lodged with Government in September, 1960 that some officials of the Dandakaranya Project had purchased a number of tractors, motor trucks and jeeps at prices higher than the prevailing market prices and misappropriated the difference. Enquiries made by the Special Police Establishment revealed that there was no truth in these allegations.

Housing for Landless Agricultural Workers in Punjab

746. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to Punjab Government during the Third Five Year Plan for securing house sites for landless agricultural workers, scheduled castes and to Panchayats for the improvement of streets and drains; and

(b) the amount given so far?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). No specific allocations have been made to State Governments for these purposes. The State Governments (including Punjab) have, however, been recently informed that they can utilise about one

third of their yearly allocation under the Village Housing Projects Scheme, for provision of house-sites to landless agricultural workers (including such members of the Scheduled Castes as might belong to this category). In addition, about 1/6th of the allocation can be utilised by them for the provision of streets and drains in the villages selected for development under the Scheme. Expenditure on both these items will be treated as a grant. The allocation of the Punjab Government under this Scheme is Rs. 6.72 lakhs during the current financial year.

Dams in Mysore

747. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct two Dams in Mysore on the Cauvery, one at Mevedatu and another 14 miles from Shinsha, for generation of hydel power;

(b) whether the Shinsha and Sivasamudram power stations will be submerged by these dams; and

(c) if so, the reason for having these two new power projects?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) No such proposal has been received from the State Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Power Generating Units in Tripura

748. Shri Biren Dutta: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Tripura where power generating units have been installed;

(b) the rate charged in these units for the supply of the electricity;

(c) whether this rate is too high compared with rates of West Bengal; and