

(b) the year-wise number of family planning operations completed during the past five years in the country as a part of the family planning scheme;

(c) the number of loops inserted during the last two years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of loops which had to be taken out on the ground that they did not suit the woman concerned?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. S Chandrasekhar): (a) The rate of growth of population in the country during the years 1961 to 1965 has been estimated as 2.38 per cent per annum. Year-wise estimates not available.

(b) Number of sterilization operations performed during the years 1962 to 1966 are as follows:

1962—1.6 lakhs
1963—1.7 lakhs
1964—2.7 lakhs
1965—4.6 lakhs
*1966—6.9 lakhs

* (Provisional as complete information from States has not so far become available).

(c) The number of loops inserted during 1965 (from April, 1965 when the IUCD programme was started) and 1966 are 467 and 952 lakhs respectively. The latter figures are provisional as the complete information from States has not so far become available.

(d) The exact information is not available at present. The figure would roughly be 8 per cent on the basis of some of the studies carried out in this respect.

Slum Clearance Scheme for Visakhapatnam

201. Shri Tenneti Viswanatham: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any slum clearance scheme for Visakhapatnam has been

received by Government from the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether Government have sanctioned the same and allotted fund for the purpose during the current year?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Nihal Singh): (a) No. The State Government are themselves competent to sanction projects under the Slum Clearance Scheme.

(b) The Central assistance is allocated to the State Governments for the slum clearance scheme as a whole and not against specified projects. For the year 1966-67, a sum of Rs 3400 lakhs has been sanctioned on account of the Slum Clearance Scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

Erosion by Visakhapatnam Beach

202 Shri Tenneti Viswanatham: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 3384 on the 25th August, 1966 regarding Sea Erosion in Visakhapatnam and state:

(a) whether any Central financial assistance for protection work has since been sanctioned; and

(b) whether Government propose to evolve a long term plan to reclaim the area eroded during the last forty years?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) The Government of India have informed the State Government that it is not possible for them to bear the cost of the protective measures. The State Government can, however, take up necessary work as a part of the State's Flood Control Programme, which includes Anti Sea Erosion works also and for which loan assistance is admissible;