

gramme for utilisation in Phulbani District in Orissa State during the last three years;

(b) the amount utilised during the last three years; and

(c) in case, some amounts have been surrendered the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) An amount of Rs. 284.65 lakhs was placed at the disposal of Drought Prone Area Programme for utilisation in Phulbani District in Orissa State during the last three years.

(b) Rs. 213.49 lakhs was utilised during the last three years;

(c) An amount of Rs. 19,000 was surrendered due to non-appointment of staff.

Food for Works Programme in Orissa

2579. **SHRI SRIBATCHHA DIGAL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) why the Government are not taking up small projects like minor irrigation schemes, construction of roads, under Drought Prone Area Programme so as to provide food for work for the tribals in the backward districts of Orissa; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take such a policy decision; and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Construction of roads is not a programme component under Drought Prone Areas Programme. Minor irrigations schemes, however, are taken up

under the programme. Approved outlay for minor irrigation in the selected districts of Kalahandi and Phulbani in Orissa is Rs. 480.16 lakhs during the Fifth Plan. Expenditure incurred on minor irrigation upto September 1978 is Rs. 311.92 lakhs. The Government of Orissa have been allotted 10,000 metric tonnes of wheat so far under the food for work programme.

Expenditure on Hosting the Theatre Artists from Moscow

2580. **SHRI M. A. HANNAN ALHAJ:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether half of the total budget allocation for the current year of the Ministry has been spent on hosting the 'BOLSHOI' Theatre artists from Moscow who are currently in India;

(b) after such huge expenditure, whether the Ministry have taken care that the maximum number of Art lovers should be able to view the show; and

(c) the reasons why Ministry have arranged the show at Kamani Auditorium which has only 639 seats (out of which more than half are bound to go to the so-called V.I.Ps. and Government officials), and not at Vigyan Bhavan which has got a large auditorium and large stage to hold dance ensemble of the magnitude of Bolshoi Group?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A large number of artists and leading figures in the field of dance and music were invited to the performances. On the inaugural day, 52 artists and specialists from the fields of dance and music, including 13 leading figures, attended. The special Bolshoi performance on the 27th was attended by 100 artists.