

**Acute shortage of potable water in villages**

96. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of potable water in many villages in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government are taking any steps to provide drinking water to these villages during the Fifth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) Yes

(b) Rural Water Supply is an important objective under Minimum Needs Programme in the Fifth Plan and it is proposed to provide Rs 550 crores for the purpose during the Fifth Plan period. However final proposals will emerge with the formulation of the Fifth Plan.

**Deteriorating Rationing conditions in Kerala**

97. SHRI M K KRISHNAN Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the deteriorating rationing conditions in Kerala due to shortage of food supplies to the state;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government in this matter and quantity of food grains given to Kerala during May and June, 1973?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE)

(a) to (c). Distribution of foodgrains

1056 L.E.—3

within the State is the responsibility of the State Government. Keeping in view the overall availability of foodgrains in the Central pool and the needs of other deficit and drought affected States, reasonable requirements of the Government of Kerala are being met from the Central pool. The following quantities of foodgrains were supplied to Kerala from the Central pool during May and June, 1973:—

(In '000 tonnes)

Month	Quantity
May	85.3
June	86.1

In addition to supplies from the Central pool, the Kerala Government has been allowed to purchase some quantities of rice from Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Pondicherry on State to State basis to supplement the Central allocations made to the State.

**Scheme for Slum Clearance in Delhi**

98 SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the scheme for slum clearance in Delhi during the Silver Jubilee year of India's Independence,

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during this year and the amount spent so far and the achievements made in this regard, and

(c) how many roads have been widened during the last three years and the arrangements made for the drainage of rain water on the sides of these roads and particularly in Bagh Kare Khan, Masjid Moth and Srinivaspuri?