

(b) if so, whether his report has been received; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) Planning Commission had, in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research, sponsored a scheme for 'Pre-investment Depth Surveys and Studies', with the assistance of the United Nations. The Deputy Surveys, being undertaken, are limited to the mineral and forest resources of the States of Mysore and Madhya Pradesh. In this connection, a United Nations Pulp and Paper Expert was in India recently for a period of four months.

(b) The report of the expert has not as yet been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Distribution of Electricity in Kerala

1302. Shri A. V. Raghavan: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government of Kerala to permit the Corporations and major Municipalities to undertake distribution of electricity within their areas; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is still under consideration and no final decision has been taken.

Edamulayar Project in Kerala

1303. Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5529 on the 12th May, 1966 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since

been taken in the matter of the **Edamulayar Project** on the Periyar river in Kerala; and

(b) the steps taken to provide adequate flow of water in the Periyar river during summer to keep down salinity?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) and (b). The Project Report has recently been received by the Central Water and Power Commission and is under examination.

Cumulative Time Deposits and Pay-roll Savings Schemes

1304. Shri P. E. Chakraverti:
Shri Vishwu Nath Pandey:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have simplified the procedure for the accounting of the deductions made for deposits in the Cumulative Time Deposits Accounts under the Pay-roll Savings Scheme;

(b) the innovations introduced to facilitate the wider use of the scheme; and

(c) how far these changes in procedure will affect the existing system in Post Office Savings Bank Accounts?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The simplified procedure which applies to Pay-roll Savings Groups in which there are at least 25 members subscribing to Cumulative Time Deposits accounts, is designed to reduce the work, both of the employers and in the post offices, without affecting the interest of the members of the Pay-roll Groups. Its main features are:

(i) Hitherto a 'deduction schedule' showing the deduction in respect of each member of the