

in the country. Dr. Lippes also gave a Press Conference on the 31st May, 1966 in Akashvani Bhavan, Delhi at which he mentioned that the Programme was well received by the Indian women. He said that the Programme of loop insertion was very successful in some of the States he had visited, namely Punjab, West Bengal, Gujarat and Maharashtra but some of the States like U.P. and Bihar had not done so well.

Shell type Government Godowns

545. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Shri Hem Barua:

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Shri Nath Pai:

Shri Alvares:

Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Urban Development** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the shell type Government godowns used for foodgrains storage have developed dangerous cracks which have rendered them useless;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a thorough inquiry has been held in the matter; and

(d) the action taken against those responsible?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) to (d). Out of 106 shell roofs of foodgrains godowns at Borivili (Bombay), cast in November, 1963, one failed in May 1964 and another in January, 1966. After enquiry, the failure in the first case was attributed to defective work by the contractor. The contractor contested the conclusion and the matter is under arbitration. A Committee is looking into the causes of failure in the second case.

Power shortage in Madras

546. **Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras is facing shortage of power and the Industry there

is in a precarious condition affecting present production and future growth;

(b) if so, the causes for this shortage; and

(c) the measures taken to remedy the situation?

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

(a) According to the report from the State authorities, the power cut imposed by them in November and December, 1965, has been lifted with effect from the midnight of 21-7-1966.

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

Abortion Rules

547. **Shri Umanath:**

Dr. P. Srinivasan:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating any proposal for relaxing the present rules governing abortion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken in this regard?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The Government of India have appointed a Committee to examine the question of legalisation of abortion in all its aspects—medical, social, moral and ethical. The report of the Committee is expected to be submitted to the Government by the 30th September, 1966.

(c) Does not arise.

Multi-Purpose Plan for Brahmaputra

548. **Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Ford Foundation expert has recommended preparation of an integrated multi-purpose basin-

wide plan to control Brahmaputra river which will benefit the economy of Assam in terms of improved navigation, cheap hydro-electric power, reduction of floods and erosion damages; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(a) Yes.

(b) The report is under examination.

Beach Erosion Board

**549. Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Imbichibava:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Central Beach Erosion Board;

(b) if so, with how many members;

(c) when it was constituted;

(d) whether they have suggested any schemes for Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c). A copy of the Resolution giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6538/66].

(d) and (e). No specific schemes have been suggested by the Board so far. However, at a recent meeting, the Board have made the following suggestions:

- (i) Data collection programme and field investigation should be started immediately on the lines recommended by the U.S. experts, who had visited the State in 1963 and 1964. Items which can be done with indigenous equipment should

be pushed through expeditiously.

- (ii) Inter-locking concrete block for the face of the sea wall may be tried on an experimental basis.

- (iii) Adjustable wooden groynes with or without sea wall may be tried as an experimental measure.

Water Supply Schemes in Kerala

**550. Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri M. K. Kumaran:**

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Water Supply Board has recently decided to start many water supply schemes in the coastal belts of Kerala;

(b) if so, how many schemes have been proposed by them;

(c) the estimated cost of each of the Schemes and the extent of Central assistance to be given;

(d) whether any of these schemes were dropped;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) Yes.

(b) 77.

(c) A list showing the estimated cost of these Schemes is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6539/66].

Rural Water-Supply Schemes executed under the Local Development Works Programme of the Department of Community Development are eligible for 100 per cent grant while rural water supply schemes financed out of National Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes are eligible to 50 per cent grant from the Centre.

In addition to the 77 schemes mentioned in the list, a comprehensive scheme costing Rs. 1.00 crore is being drawn up for the cholera endemic area