

charges for indoor patients has been enhanced. The salary limits for eligibility of medical care for mine and beedi workers have been enhanced to Rs. 1250/- p.m. from August, 1984.

- (3) In respect of Type I and Type II houses, the element of subsidy has been increased to Rs. 7,500/- and Rs. 15,000/- respectively or 75% of the actual cost of construction whichever is less. Further enhanced development charges at the rate of Rs. 2,000/- in the case of Type I houses and Rs. 2,250/- in the case of Type II houses or 75% of the actual cost of development are being paid. In the case of beedi workers subsidy element paid to the State Governments for the tenements constructed has also been enhanced from Rs. 1,500/- to Rs. 3,000/- per tenement.
- (4) The scheme for financial assistance to Beedi Workers' Cooperative Society for construction of godowns and worksheds is being implemented from January, 1984. A Cooperative Society having membership of 100 or more beedi workers is eligible for financial assistance under the scheme.
- (5) Rates of scholarships awarded to the students, which ranged from Rs. 10/- to Rs. 75/-, have been increased from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 125/-. The grant-in-aid payable to the mine managements for purchase of buses for school going children has also been increased from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 1 lakh. The scheme providing for grant-in-aid payable to the mine managements on a matching basis has been introduced under which the miners would have an opportunity to visit places of industrial, historical and religious importance. An amount of Rs. 10.83 lakhs and Rs. 13.01 lakhs was released towards water supply schemes out of the Lime-

stone & Dolomite and Iron Ore Welfare Funds by way of subsidy.

(c) Government had introduced a Bill in the Lok Sabha on 30th April, 1982 to amend the Trade Unions Act, 1926. The Bill has lapsed on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The percentage of outsiders in the executive of trade unions was proposed to be reduced from the existing 5% to 25%.

Increase in Food Production

*719. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 100 per cent increase in rural electrification during the last 5 years has led to increased food production (T.O.I. dated 29-3-85) ;

(b) whether food production has gone up largely due to easy availability of various inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides and high yielding variety seeds ;

(c) whether increase has been in respect of wheat and rice for which seeds were developed and imported from abroad; and

(d) whether Government will import similar high yielding variety seeds for oil-seeds and pulses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The increase in foodgrains production during the last five years has been on account of several factors, which *inter-alia* includes use of seed of high yielding varieties; timely and adequate supply of inputs like fertilizers, plant protection chemicals and credit etc.; development of irrigation facilities; increase in rural electrification; transfer of new production technology to the farmers; and price support measures, etc.

(c) Increase in production is not only in wheat and rice, but also in other crops like jowar, bajra and maize although it is not as spectacular as in the case of wheat and rice.

(d) There is no proposal to import seed of high yielding varieties of oilseeds and pulses. However, the varieties of these crop developed in other countries are also being tested under Indian conditions to evaluate their performance and adaptability.

Shortcomings in the Public Distribution System

*720. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :
SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the poor quality of commodities and their irregular supplies are the main factors responsible for poor people not taking their rations regularly from the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, whether the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has made a study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The study made

by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has revealed that the benefits of the Public Distribution System are reaching vulnerable sections of the population in an ample measure and thus the cardinal aim of adequately covering poorer sections of the population in rural areas is being adequately fulfilled. Among other things, the study has referred to "poor quality", "irregular supply" and "easy availability in the market" of essential commodities as factors responsible for non-lifting of the commodities from the fair price shops. The Report of the Planning Commission is under consideration of the Government.

Construction of Flats under Fifth Self-Financing Scheme

*721. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the flats under Fifth Self-Financing Scheme are still under preliminary stage of construction;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the time by which these flats would be available for allottees ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Statement Containing Information on Fifth Self Financing Scheme

| S. No. | Locality | Category | | | Construction Position |
|--------|------------------|----------|----|-----|--|
| | | I | II | III | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Rajouri Garden | 20 | 5 | — | Since completed |
| 2. | East of Kailash | 9* | — | — | *Since completed **To be ready by March, 1986 |
| 3. | Alaknanda (A-II) | 26 | — | — | Since completed |