

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA :
 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :
 SHRI ONKARLAL BERWA :
 SHRI UMANATH :

Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the residents of the Working Girls Hostel at Curzon Road, New Delhi have been offering satyagrah in front of the Hostel;

(b) if so, since how long and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to redress the grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) One resident has been offering satyagrah in front of the Working Girls Hostel.

(b) She is stated to be on satyagrah since 3rd April, 1966. She feels that the rent charged per seat is excessive. She also wants house rent allowance even though she is in occupation of Government accommodation.

(c) She has been offered regular Government residential accommodation which has not been accepted by her.

GENERAL STRIKE BY L.I.C. EMPLOYEES AGAINST AUTOMATION

*826. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All-India Life Insurance Employees Association has decided to launch a general strike in the country against automation; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The All-India Insurance Employees' Association has decided to launch a general strike on the 5th April, 1968, of Life Insurance Employees against automation.

(b) It is an internal matter of the L.I.C. The Association should discuss and settle it with the Corporation.

RAJASTHAN CANAL PROJECT

*827. DR. KARNI SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the original outlay estimated for the completion of the Rajasthan Canal in its entirety, the revised estimates, if any, and the phasing of it since commencing the work;

(b) how much of the work has been completed according to schedule and at what cost on the main canal construction work and on other ancillary works and how much work fell behind the schedule;

(c) the total acreage estimated to come under irrigation by the Rajasthan Canal complex and the actual achievement so far; and

(d) the estimated food production under this scheme and the achievement to the extent the canal has materialised and what is the return ratio on investments put in so far ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) A Project estimate amounting to Rs. 66.46 crores for Rajasthan Canal to provide irrigation to 16.84 lac acres was sanctioned by the Rajasthan Government in 1957. After signing of the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960, the estimates were re-cast in 1963, greatly improving the scope of the project, envisaging perennial irrigation to 23.75 lac acres by providing storage on the Beas. The work was contemplated to be completed in two Stages. Stage I comprising Rajasthan feeder, Rajasthan main canal upto mile 122 with its distributary system costing Rs. 75 crores in 1970-71, and Stage II comprising the remaining works on the Rajasthan canal upto mile 292 and its distributary system costing Rs. 64 crores in 1977-78.

(b) A total expenditure on the construction of the project so far is about