World Bank Aid for Narmada Sagar Project

Written Answers

2339. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-DEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in the 'Times of India' dated 10 June; 1990 captioned "World Bank may stop aid for Narmada Dam";
- (b) if so, the objections raised by the World Bank:
- (c) whether it is not possible for Government to find pragmatic solution to legitimate long term objections of those affected and national problems likely to arise if the project is carried out as proposed; and
- (d) Whether Government will ask all genuine friends of India's development to find alternatives to present Narmada plan's basic aims and objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank had stipulated certain conditions that were to be complied with by the concerned State Governments and the Government of India for considering further extension of the credit assistance for the Gujarat Water Delivery and Drainage Project beyond 2nd July, 1990. These conditions, inter-alia, include rehabilitation and resettlement arrangements, issue of administrative orders and decision to acquire forest land in Maharashtra for the resettlement of project affected people in Maharashtra. All these conditions have been complied with and as a result thereof, the bank has extended the credit assistance for

the project for a further period of one year upto 1st July, 1991.

(c) and (d). The Sardar Sarovar and the Narmada Sagar project were approved by the Government of India after due deliberations and subject to ensuring of adequate environmental safeguards. The three participating States, namely, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have announced liberal rehabilitation and resettlement policies for the Project affected people and the detailed programmes have/are being drawn up by these States to facilitate satisfactory relocation of the affected population. Adequate environmental measures have been planned by the concerned States. The techno-economic viability of the projects has also been well assessed. Moreover these projects form a part of the final decision of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal. Hence, there is no question of finding alternatives to the present projects as envisaged.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Argon in the List of Scheduled Tribes

2340. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to include the Argon tribe in the list of Scheduled Tribes:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by what time it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):
(a) to (c). The above proposal along with similar other proposals is being considered in the context of the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Sched-