

well as the financial implications etc. Appropriate decision in the matter will be taken after receipt of the Committee's report.

### **Sardar Sarovar Project**

45. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:  
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has cleared the Sardar Sarovar Project from environment and economic viability points of view;

(b) if so, the main observations made by the World Bank in this regard;

(c) the financial assistance likely to be obtained from the World Bank for this project;

(d) whether the economic viability of the project has been questioned by some non-Government Organisations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The World Bank has observed that benefits from this project are large enough to substantially outweigh the cost of the immediate human and environmental disruption. Without the dam, the long term costs for people would be much greater and the lack of an income source for future generations would put increasing pressure on the environment.

(c) The World Bank is providing financial assistance to the tune of US \$ 450 Million for the Sardar Sarovar Project under two projects, namely, (i) Narmada River Development Sardar Sarovar Dam and Power Project; and (ii) Narmada River Develop-

ment (Gujarat) Water Delivery and Drainage Project.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) It is the considered view of the Government that the project is techno-economically viable.

### **Shipment of Food Supplies to Kuwait**

46. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:  
SHRI SHANTARAM  
POTDUKHE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian ship 'Vishwasiddhi' which was sent to Kuwait with food stuff for the benefit of Indians and other Asians stranded there could not enter the ports of Kuwait and faced difficulties in unloading the foodstuff;

(b) if so, the details of the facts relating to the voyage of the ship;

(c) whether the Iraqi authorities also imposed penalty on the ship as docking charges;

(d) if so, the amount thereof and how the matter was sorted out;

(e) whether the ship finally succeeded in its mission and returned to India; and

(f) the total expenditure incurred on the transport and shipment of the food supplies and who bore it?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). The vessel M.V. Vishwa Siddhi was not sent to any Kuwait port. The vessel was programmed to off-load