respect of which sanction from the technical development department was not received and what is the total amount of power that the concerned projects were denied?

Oral Answers

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice.

Dam on Barak River in Assam

*530. Shri Rishang Keishing:

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

- (a) whether the Assam Government have requested the Central Government to build a dam on the Barak river to ensure flood control in Cachar;
- (b) whether the proposed dam will benefit the Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura in so far as the problems of transport and power supply are concerned; and
- (c) the reaction of Government to the proposal?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. A. Mehdi): (a) The Government of Assam have requested the Central Water and Power Commission to carry out investigations on their behalf for a dam on the river Barak;

(b) and (c). The dam is proposed for flood control only and no power generation or inland transport facilities are envisaged.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether a survey has been carried out and, if so, with what results?

Shri S. A. Mehdi: A survey has been carried out in Maniadhar and an alternative site has also been investigated. It is expected that by 1964 preliminary investigations will be completed.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether the Government has any idea

about the cost of the scheme and whether the Assam Government requested that the entire cost be met by the Central Government?

Shri S. A. Mehdi: These investigations will finish in 1964 and it will be possible only after that to prepare a plan for the project.

Shri Rishang Keishing: My question has not been answered.

Shri N. R. Laskar: May I know whether definite assurances were given by the Ministry to this Hon. House that the investigations would be completed by the end of March, 1963 positively and, if so, why this delay in completing the investigations?

Shri S. A. Mehdi: There is no delay in it. As I said, an alternative site is also being investigated, and therefore the whole procedure will take another year or so to complete, and after that a plan will be made.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Rishang Keishing's complaint is that his question has not been answered.

Sri Rishang Keishing: I wanted to know whether the Assam Government's request is that the entire cost of the scheme will be met by the Central Government.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: That will only be considered after the cost has been estimated and the project has been finalised.

National Water Supply and Sanitation Committee

*531. Shri Hem Raj: Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 78 on the 9th November, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Committee have been considered by all the State Governments;

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(b) if so, the steps taken to implement those recommendations; and

Oral Answers

(c) how far this has solved the water problem in rural and urban areas?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju): (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The present position with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Committee as indicated by the respective State Governments is given below:

Punjab.—The recommendations of the Committee have been considered. Majority of the recommendations are already being implemented in the State. The problem of water supply has been tackled to the extent upto which the funds are made available from the various sources.

Maharashtra, Madras, Assam and Bihar.—Recommendations of the Committee are still under consideration.

Replies from the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Kerala, Mysore, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir and further information are still awaited. A further statement will be laid on the Table in due course,

Shri Hem Raj: May I know whether one of the recommendations of this committee was that since there are a multiplicity of agencies so far as the rural drinking water supply schemes are concerned, they should be integrated under some one authority, and whether any action has been taken to integrate all thess auhorities into one body?

Shri D. S. Raju: It is one of the recommendations of the Committee and the State Governments are considering the matter. They have not submitted their final report.

Shri Hem Raj: Since the population is very sparse so far as the rural areas in the hills are concerned and all those villages cannot satisfy the condition of 5,000 or 10,000, which is the number set for them as the population, may I know whether drinking water supply scheme will be sanctioned for the hill: areas on the basis of a lesser population?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): I have already stated that we have sanctioned special investigation divisions to consider the problem of scarcity areas and difficult areas. On receiving the recommendations of these divisions, if necessary, the ceiling may be revised.

Shri P. Venkatasubbiah: May I know whether any proposal has been made to provide drinking water facilities in famine-affected areas where there will be a great scarcity of water, and, if so, whether any proposal has come from the Government of Andhra Pradesh?

of any special water problem in famine areas. There are certain areas of the country where the water-famine is perpetual, and we are investigating the problem of these areas.

Dr. Sarojini Nahishi: May I know the nature of the co-ordination between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Community Development as far as the supply of drinking water and the question of sanitation are concerned?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: There was a proposal that we should have a composite drinking water Board consisting of representatives of all the Ministries which are dealing with water supply. Pending that, we have appointed a committee of the Secretaries presided over by the Health Minister, and they are trying to look into the matter of co-ordination.

श्री तुलक्षेत्रास जावत्र : स्टटमेंट में लिखा है :

"Recommendations of the Committee are still under consideration."

इस का क्या मतलब है ? क्या वहां के लिए कोई योजना तैयार की थी या योजना तैयार ही नहीं की थी वाटर की ?

डा॰ सुक्षोला नायर : एक मुख्य सिफा-रिश इस में यह थी कि जगह जगह पर वाटर और मैनीटशन, बोर्ड स्थापित किए जायें, वे मुख कर्जे भी लें और कुछ स्कीम्ज का इम्प्ले-मेंटशन भी करें। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स प्रभी विचार कर रही है कि ग्राया इस किस्म के बोर्ड स्थापित किये जाने चाहियें या नहीं किये जाने चाहियें।

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know the date when these recommendations were circulated to the various State Governments and the date by which their replies were expected, and whether any official guidance or help was sought by any State in order to implement these recommendations?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The recommendations were circulated to the State Governments in May, 1962. We have received replies from Punjab. Maharashtra, Madras, Assam and Bihar. The others have not sent their replies as yet.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: The hon. Minister said that the only difficulty is in regard to irrigation. In Andhra Pradesh, especially in Rayalseema, and particularly in my constituency, as a matter of fact, there are some villages without drinking water. Was there a specific proposal sent by the Andhra Government—there is no drinking water in the two or three districts—and I would like to know whether the Centre has never received any such proposal.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I do not know how the hon. Member has misunders-

tood my previous reply. I did not refer to irrigation at all. All that I said was that there is perpetual water famine in certain parts of practically all the States and the problem of scarcity areas and difficult areas is being investigated by the special investigation division.

Dr. K. L. Rao: Since this investigation is most essential for drawing up economic schemes of water-supply, to encourage this investigation by the States, may I know whether the cost of such investigation will be met by the Centre?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Yes, Sir; we are giving 100 per cent assistance for the special investigation division.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

12 hrs.

Release of Communists during Bye-Elections.

S.N.Q Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Shri Mohammad Elias:
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any representations for release of Communists detained under the Defence of India Rules in those States where bye-elections are to be held shortly; and
- (b) steps, if any, proposed to be taken by Government on representations received?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibudendra Misra):
(a) and (b). The Election Commission has received three representations from:

- (1) Shri Jyoti Basu, M.L.A.,
- (2) Shri Bhupesh Gupta, M.P.,