

English]

### Tubewell Project

\*328. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted Third U. P. Public Tubewell Project for World Bank assistance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the response of World Bank thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government for its early clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA). (a) to (d) "The Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted the Third Uttar Pradesh Public Tubewells Project for World Bank assistance which envisages construction of 10.0 new tubewells of 150 Cubic Metre per hour capacity in 16 districts, 1500 existing tubewells to be connected with dedicated electric feeder lines and modernisation of existing 500 tubewells with dedicated electric feeders at an estimated cost of Rs.195.30 crores. This project was posed to the World Bank for assistance. The world Bank has raised a number of issues, inter alia, relating to performance of tubewells installed with World Bank assistance earlier, farmer's investment in shallow wells and transfer of ownership of existing deep tubewells to farmers groups, Water Users, Associations or Panchayats, very high subsidies on rural electricity and the danger of over exploitation of ground water.

The World Bank is not satisfied with the steps taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to resolve the issues. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has given point-wise clarifications on the issues raised by the World Bank on 5th November, 1992.

These were considered and in view of World Bank's reactions towards this project, the Government of Uttar Pradesh were advised to explore the possibilities of getting the assistance from some other on-going World Bank assisted projects".

[Translation]

### Comprehensive Liberalised Compensation Package

\*329. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the comprehensive liberalised compensation package for the oustees of different coal projects;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Consultations with other ministries have not concluded.

### Control of Blindness

\*330. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI }  
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR }  
SHARMA }

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of the National programme for Control of Blindness;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the objective of controlling blindness would be achieved by the target date;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of this national programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) : Yes, sir. The implementation of the programme is reviewed at regular intervals to inter-alia evaluate the performance with regard to:

- Upgradation of ophthalmic facilities at PHC, District and Regional Centre levels.
- Number of Cataract surgeries performed.
- Training and re-orientation of ophthalmic manpower.
- Utilisation of funds.

A number of weaknesses in the programme have been identified like sub-optimal utilisation of infrastructure, equipment and training facilities. Necessary corrective steps have been initiated in this regard.

(c) to (e) : At its present level of performance it will be difficult to clear the backlog of cases. In order to give a thrust to the programme a number of measures have been introduced which include strengthening the Ophthalmic infrastructure in the Medical colleges, District Hospitals and rural areas and the establishment of District Societies and Mobile Units to provide an impetus to eye camps. The financial outlays provided by the Central Government have been increased substantially and a project has been posed for World Bank assistance to intensify efforts in 7 states in the country.