

the international market has shown downward trend during the year 1993

(b) During 1993 while prices of WTI was the highest at US \$20.61 per barrel during March, the lowest was registered by Dubai Marker crude at US\$ 12.83 per barrel during December

(c) The total quantity of crude oil for 1993-94 proposed to be imported is around 30.79 MMT at an approximate value of US \$ 3.39 billion

(d) The average unit prices paid for imported crude during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under

*(Figures in \$/bbl)*

1991-92	17.07
1992-93	17.88
1993-94	14.92

(April 1993 - January, 1994)

### **Irrigation Facilities**

\*132 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the utilisation rate of irrigation facilities in proportion to their potential in respect of major and medium irrigation projects,

(b) the percentage by which the utilisation rate fell during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the anticipated drop during the Eighth Five Year Plan,

(c) the reasons therefor, and

(d) the strategy adopted by the Government to increase the utilisation rate of irrigation facilities during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) The percentage of Irrigation potential utilised to irrigation at the end of 92-93 is about 85.7% (anticipated)

(b) There was no drop in the percentage utilisation of Created potential during Seventh Plan from the level of 85.1% at the end of Sixth Plan. As per targets of Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), the percentage utilisation of Created potential is likely to drop to 85.3% from the present anticipated level of 85.7%.

(c) Creation of potential and its utilisation is a continuous process. A lag of a few years between the introduction of irrigation and its full utilisation is unavoidable as it takes time for the farmers to construct the field channels and to prepare the land for irrigated farming. Also the switch over from rainfed agriculture to irrigated agriculture involves a major change in agricultural techniques which farmers take time to master.

(d) To reduce this gap a Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) Programme has already been in implementation since 1974-75. The Eighth Plan strategy, inter alia, includes extending this programme to large minor schemes above 500 ha or in a group of schemes to make a contiguous block of 500 ha and above, continuation of National Water Management Project and reappraisal of actual potential of old schemes and annual performance review.