

**Alagesan**): Purna Project is the only major irrigation project sanctioned in the Third Five Year Plan period in Maharashtra.

**Major Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra**

1876. { **Shri Jedhe:**  
**Shri Tulsidas Jadhav:**  
**Shri V. T. Patil:**

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

(a) the major irrigation project sanctioned and initiated in the Second Five Year Plan period in Maharashtra State which still have not been completed;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) when Government expect them to be completed; and

(d) what measures Government have taken to see that these projects have been completed?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan)**: (a) (1) Vir Dam.

(2) New Khadakwasla.

(3) Girna.

(4) Mula.

(5) Purna (sanctioned in Third Plan but initiated in Second Plan).

(b) to (d). All schemes except the Mula Project are scheduled to be completed during the Third Five Year Plan. Mula Project is expected to be completed in the Fourth Plan period.

In making plan allocations, preference has been given to continuing schemes for completion so that benefits start accruing early. Progress on these projects has been reviewed by the Central Irrigation Team. The Projects are progressing satisfactorily.

**Group Booking for Foreign Tourists on I.A.C.**

1877. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**  
**Shri Ravindra Varma:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 64 on the 7th August, 1962 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Travel Agencies like the 'Hotelpian' are advising tourists to South East Asia against including India in their itineraries because of the inability to get group booking on I.A.C. flights within India;

(b) whether Government are aware that the volume of tourist traffic carried by the Air India is adversely affected by the non-availability of group bookings on internal flights;

(c) whether any proposals have been made by the Air India to deal with this difficulty; and

(d) if so, what are the proposals and what action has been taken on them?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati)**: (a) Government are not aware of any such advice by International Travel Agencies. It is true, however, that with their existing fleet, the Indian Airlines Corporation are unable to provide sufficient capacity to cope with the demand

(b) to (d). While the Indian Airlines Corporation are generally able to meet the demand for group bookings on their trunk routes, served by the Viscounts and some of the regional routes, served by the Fokkers, they find it difficult to accept group bookings, exceeding 20 in number, on some of the regional routes, served by the Dakotas, because of the limited capacity on that aircraft. This naturally affects the interests of Air-India, who bring tourists groups to India on their services. Both Air-India and certain Travel agencies have drawn the attention of Indian Airlines Corporation to