

Rajasthan Canal Project, namely, Pong Dam, Beas-Sutlej Link, Harike Project and Rajasthan Feeder has since been estimated as about 35000.

(c) It is proposed to resettle most of these oustees in the Rajasthan Canal area in Rajasthan.

(d) and (e). No specific request for financial assistance for the resettlement of these oustees has been received, though the Government of Rajasthan have been asking for funds for the development of the Rajasthan Canal area.

Supply of Water from Rajasthan Canal to Rajasthan

7865. Shri D. N. Patodia: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Water and Power Commission had recently intervened to settle the dispute between the Governments of Rajasthan and Punjab over the question of the supply of water from the Rajasthan Canal to Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether any reconciliation in the matter could be arrived at; and

(c) if so, the details of the arrangements agreed upon?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Ministry of Irrigation and Power have held meetings in connection with the distribution of the surplus Ravi and Beas waters between Punjab and Rajasthan.

(b) Yes.

(c) It was decided that 43 per cent of the surplus Ravi and Beas waters be made available to Rajasthan in the year 1967-68 and the requirements for the year 1968-69 be reviewed in February 1968.

Cost of Imported Kerosene Oil

7866. Shri Jyotirmoy Basu: Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) the landed cost of kerosene oil

imported by foreign companies in India excluding those from socialist countries; and

(b) the landed cost of kerosene imported from the Socialist countries?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Raghu Ramaiah): (a) Kerosene oil is being imported only from the USSR and Rumania. No import of this product is being made by the foreign oil companies.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose the terms and conditions of the commercial agreements under which IOC is importing kerosene.

Opening of Branches by Foreign Banks

7867. Shri Jyotirmoy Basu: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted permission to the foreign banks for opening a number of branches during the last five years;

(b) if so, how many were allowed during the above period;

(c) whether these have hampered the growth of Indian banking in the country; and

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to stop the expansion of branches of foreign banks in the country in order to encourage the growth of Indian banking?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 7 foreign banks were granted licenses between 1962 and 1966 to open 30 new branches.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Generally, foreign banks are permitted to open new offices in port towns only where they can help in the financing of foreign trade.