

motion, the Ministry of Foreign Trade endeavours to keep a continuous watch over the whole field of export promotion and tries to devise remedial measures as and when necessary.

(c) So far as the shortage of raw materials is concerned, steps have already been taken to arrange for additional imports of steel. So far as shipping difficulties are concerned, Government is endeavouring to set up an effective consultation machinery between the shippers and the shipping interests in the form of Shippers' Councils, and efforts are steadily being made to secure reasonable and fair freight rates as well as to increase the strength of the Indian Merchant Marine.

**Construction of Eight Dams for Damodar Valley Project to prevent destruction from Floods**

1341. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-DHURI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether originally foreign experts formulated a blueprint for the construction of eight dams for the Damodar Valley Project to make it perfectly effective in preventing death and destruction from floods for all time to come but Indian authorities did not agree with that and only four dams were constructed which have proved to be quite ineffective; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to make the Damodar Valley Corporation Project really effective on the one hand and to resuscitate the dried and shallow canals and rivers for smooth drainage of any surplus waters into the sea on the other?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The construction of eight storage reservoirs was proposed in the preliminary memorandum prepared by a foreign expert for the unified development of the Damodar Valley. After considering the financial implications of the proposal and on technical considerations, a decision was taken to construct four storage reservoirs which would be sufficient to cover all floods recorded in the last 100 years. The damage that is occurring in the Lower Damodar Valley because of floods cannot

be attributed to the lesser storage available than earlier envisaged but is mainly due to drainage congestion in the Lower Valley. A proposal for construction of embankments and dredging of the river channel in places in the Lower Valley is under examination.

**Police Firing in West Bengal**

1342. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:  
SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:  
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) on how many occasions the police fired upon the people, till date, since the imposition of the President's rule in West Bengal;

(b) how many persons died and how many received injuries as a result of the Police firing;

(c) on how many occasions the C.R.P. personnel resorted to firing in West Bengal during this period;

(d) a list containing names and particulars of persons who succumbed to the Police firing; and

(e) whether any compensation has been sanctioned to the families of persons who died of the Police firing and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a), (b), (d) and (e). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) During the period between the promulgation of President's Rule and 10-11-70, the C.R.P. personnel had to resort to firing in West Bengal on 37 occasions.

**Police Firing in West Bengal**

1343. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:  
SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

on many occasions the Police firing in West Bengal was unprovoked;

(b) whether Government are prepared to order judicial probe into the activities of the Police in West Bengal during January to September, 1970; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Every complaint received by Government is inquired into and action is taken against those found at fault. No judicial probe into such a wide subject as suggested in the question is hence called for.

#### **Irrigation Potential of the Kangsabati Irrigation Project**

1344. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the ultimate irrigation potential of the Kangsabati Irrigation Project in West Bengal;

(b) when the Project got the sanction of Government and when the construction work started;

(c) the original and revised estimates of cost for the entire Project; total expenditure incurred till date and when the construction work was expected to be completed;

(d) how far the works have progressed and whether the shortage of fund is hampering the progress and, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what stands in the way of completing the construction work in scheduled time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) 9.5 lakh acres.

(b) Some preliminary works had been started by the State Government in 1956-57. The Project was approved by the Planning Commission in 1961.

(c) The originally estimated cost was Rs. 25.26 crores. The State Government have indicated that the revised cost is about Rs. 46 crores. The Project is programmed to be substantially completed by the end of the Fourth Plan. The expenditure incurred was about Rs. 31 crores upto end of August 1970.

(d) and (e). The Kangsabati dam and a part of the canal system have been completed and are in operation. The construction of Kumari dam and the balance of the canal system is in hand. The project works could be accelerated if the Government of West Bengal could allot more funds from within their Plan ceilings.

#### **Statement by Commissioner of Calcutta Police Re. Anti-Social Elements**

1345. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a statement by the Commissioner, Calcutta Police on the 1st October, 1970, wherein he is reported to have said that anti-social elements to-day formed a strong tail of the C.P.I. (ML);

(b) whether the attention of Government has also been drawn to the fact that a summarised version of the statement of the Police Commissioner was published in the Calcutta Edition of the *Statesman* dated the 2nd October, 1970, under the caption "Marked shift in allegiance of rowdies"; and

(c) if so, the full text of the said statement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c). Government are aware of the role of anti-social elements in the recent spurt of lawlessness in West Bengal and at Calcutta in particular. Full facts are being ascertained from the State Government.

#### **Loans to Coffee Planters**

1346. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4112 on the 26th August, 1970 and state: