

(c) The Government has decided to set up a Special Committee of Experts to examine the Final Report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle.

National Water Grid for Equal Distribution of Water to States

1741. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to have a National Water Grid to ensure equal distribution of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether discussions have also been held with the State Governments in the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Clearance to Sidhmukh and Nohar Project

1742. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has not yet approved the Sidhmukh and Nohar projects; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay and the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Both Sidhmukh and Nohar irrigation projects have been found to be techno-economically viable by the Central Water Commission. The Rajasthan Government has been advised to get the projects cleared from the environment angle.

[*English*]

Export of Minerals

1745. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new plan has been formulated to expand export of minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the value of the minerals exported during the last three years, year-wise and the countries to which they are exported; and

(d) the increase in exports expected after introducing new plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Diversification of market, better unit value realisation, value addition for exports and securing long term contracts are some of the measures for expanding export of minerals.

(c) The value of exports of minerals and ores during the last three years was as under:—