

"Irrigation Projects"

1222. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded environment and forests approval to the second phase of Vamsadhara Irrigation Project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the conditions stipulated therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to clear the project early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. The second phase of Vamsadhara Irrigation project was rejected from environmental angle in January, 86 due to non submission of environmental data and management plans by project proponents. A comprehensive scheme on compensatory afforestation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land also has not been received, so far, from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) A decision on the scheme would be possible only after receipt of complete environmental and forestry plans.

[Translation]

Doubling of Railway Line

1223. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to lay double railway line between Udhana-Jalgaon in Western Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this work; and

(d) the time by which the construction work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d) An Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey was conducted in 1982-83. The estimated cost of the proposed doubling was Rs. 7.03 crores at that point of time with a return of 12.6%. Patch doubling had been taken up in 2 block sections between Amalner-Takarkhede-Dharangaon. The work was subsequently reviewed and it was found that line capacity works which had been taken up and are likely to be completed during 95-96 will provide considerable relief deferring the need for doubling for the time being. Doubling of the section will be planned when traffic requirements so warrant subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Super Bazar

1224. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 115 dated 14 February, 1995 regarding revision of rates by Super Bazar and state:

(a) the reasons for increasing the rates of the items already lying in its stock without getting the stocks of those items on the revised rates;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government that Super Bazars do not charge the excess money on the items lying with them in their old stocks;

(c) the aims and objectives with which the Super Bazars were set up and when; and

(d) the number of letters pending replies in the Ministry pertaining to the Super Bazars and the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Super Bazar has reported that revision of rates is a normal trading practice which is undertaken depending on factors such as procurement cost, revision in taxes/excise duty and trend in the market.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Super Bazar was set up in the year 1966. The objects of the Super Bazar as defined in its bye-laws are to undertake wholesale and retail distribution of consumer goods and essential commodities; and to establish department stores, to develop an effective link between the producers and the consumers with the object of transforming production on a continuous basis to suit the changing market, to raise the quality of products and maintain minimum standards, to foster the growth of new manufacturing units through market support and management advice, to lower distribution costs and to introduce fair and better trading practices such as fixed prices etc; and to provide an information service to both producers and consumers;

(d) 12 letters are pending reply in the Ministry pertaining to the Super Bazar and are at different stages of examination.

Cotton Cultivation

1225. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on the climatic conditions and soil testing for growing cotton in the non-traditional State like Orissa;

(b) if so, the findings of such survey;

(c) whether there has been any potential and possibility for growing cotton in Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to grow cotton in those areas?