

Industrial Approvals about the number of approvals which have fructified.

(b) and (c). Some proposals for setting up joint venture with Danish tie-up have been received by the Government and these are at various stages of consideration. Details of pending foreign collaboration proposals are not revealed till the Government have taken final decision thereon.

Threat to Bhakra Dam

1572. DR. B.L. SHAILESH:
DR. D.N. REDDY:
CH. KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the life of the Bhakra Dam across the Sutluj and the total amount spent by Government on its construction;

(b) whether the Bhakra complex faces worst threat to its existence due to heavy rains and the constant attack by the sediments and silt to its reservoir and machines;

(c) if so, its impact on the life of this dam; and

(d) the steps being taken to prevent the silt cutting the dam's life apart from implementing some effective soil conservation measures in the catchment area of Sutluj?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) The life of the dam as predicted by experts is:

(i) for Dead storage levels: 260 years.

(ii) for Live storage levels: 630 years.

The total amount spent on the construction of Bhakra Dam itself was Rs. 79.11 crores.

(b) and (c). Cumulative siltation and such other factors tend to reduce the life of the dam.

(d) Various attempts have been made to deal with the problem of siltation by defining its nature and dimensions apart from outlining the necessary measures to reduce the pace of siltation. The siltation caused by erosion in the catchment area can be reduced by regulation of quarrying of stones and excavations, proper terracing and drainage, afforestation and controlled grazing of animals. A Committee of Experts was appointed to look into the problem which recommended a work plan to be executed by Bhakra Beas Management Board and Government of Himachal Pradesh. Efforts are being made to firm up a comprehensive programme to reduce siltation with the cooperation of the concerned State Governments and other agencies.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Clearing Machine for LPG Distributors

1573. SHRIMATI MANORAMA
SINGH:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:
SHRI S.D. SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to all LPG distributors in the country to install telephone clearing machines;