

form level of 1500 feet above mean sea level.

The two canals are proposed to be linked by 10 pipes of 12 feet diameter for diversion of water collected from Himalayan streams to the Garland Canal. It also provides for construction of 300 reservoirs of about 0.5 million acre feet storage each along the Himalayan Canal, 600 storages of the same capacity along the Garland Canal, a storage of 300 million acre feet near Nagaur in Rajasthan with the construction of 300 feet high dam over an area of 40 sq. miles and a storage of 100 million acre feet on the Sone.

The above proposals are at present under examination in the Department of Irrigation in consultation with the Centre Water Commission.

Agreement between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka on Cauvery

24. SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister during his visit to Madras expressed a hope that an accord would be reached between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka on the Cauvery Water Issue; and

(b) if so, what efforts have been made by the Union Government to bring about an early agreement between the two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An understanding amongst the concerned States, namely, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu with regard

to the use and development of Cauvery waters was reached at the inter-State meeting held by the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation in August, 1976. It was then agreed that the various issues relating to the manner of sharing of Cauvery waters in lean and good years would be worked out by a Committee of technical representatives of the Centre and State Governments. It was also agreed to constitute the Cauvery Valley Authority and that the functions and rules of procedures of such an Authority be drawn up by a Committee of Secretaries of the three States.

Two Committees were, accordingly, set up. A number of meetings have been held by these Committees during which the State representatives expressed divergent views on certain issues.

A ministerial level meeting is now proposed to be held in the near future to settle the outstanding differences.

House building advance to Government employees for purchase of built up flats

25. SHRI D. G. GAWAI:

SHRI KACHARULAL HEMRAJ JAIN:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has asked the heads of all Ministries/offices of the Government of India to sanction themselves the House Building Advance to their employees in respect of built up flats;

(b) if so, to what extent this has reduced the burden of the Ministry of Works and Housing;

(c) whether there is any proposal to give authority to the heads of various Ministries and other Departments

of the Government to sanction house building advance to their employees when the advance is taken for constructing a house on an approved plot of land; and

(d) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAM KINKAR):

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) About 10 to 12 per cent.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Detailed particulars are yet to be worked out.

Sea-erosion in Kerala

26. SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the assessment of the Central Government Study on the sea-erosion in Kerala last time; and

(b) what assistance is proposed to be given to the Kerala Government to stop this natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) The Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, accompanied by senior technical officers from the Centre, had visited the areas affected by sea erosion in Kerala from 11th to 14th August, 1977. The Minister had suggested that the State should concentrate on more vulnerable sections of the sea coast affected by sea erosion in the first instance and also build up organisational capacity in order to utilise budget provision of the current year and for stepping up the pace of execution of anti-sea erosion works. The State was also advised to avail of the additional assistance of wheat and milo under the Rural Employment

Scheme which could be utilised for payment of part of the wages on protection works in rural areas.

(b) Anti-sea erosion works are included under the flood control sector which forms part of the State Plan. As such the planning and implementation of these measures are the responsibility of the State Governments. The Centre provides block loans and grants to the State Governments for the Plan schemes and State Governments can make the allotment to various sectors according to priorities. However, taking into account the need for speedy implementation of anti-sea erosion measures in the State, the Centre has provided special loan assistance to the State Government for accelerating the approved anti-sea erosion schemes included in the State Plan. The amount made available during the first three years of the Fifth Plan has been Rs. 3.75 crores. During the current year, an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been released so far for this purpose.

Award by tribunal on Narmada Waters Dispute

27. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 996 on 20th June, 1977 regarding Narmada waters and state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in the matters of giving award by the Tribunal on Narmada waters Dispute between the State of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, facts thereof; and

(c) whether Government have asked the Tribunal to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Gujarat have completed their further argu-