

Pancheshwar Project

2491. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the reasons for delay in finalising the Pancheshwar Project in Pithoragarh Dist. of U.P. and the time by which this project is expected to be started?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): The site for the Pancheshwar Hydro-electric project is located on the stretch of the Sharda river where it forms the boundary between India and Nepal. During the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Nepal in December, 1977 joint investigation of the Project was agreed to. A Joint Experts Group has since been set up for joint investigations relating to the Project. The question of implementation of the Project would arise after the investigations are completed and feasibility established.

Working Group to Improve Rural Economy

2492. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

SHRI HARI SHANKER MAHALE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Groups constituted to draw up detailed programmes have since finalised proposals to improve rural economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the potential of each scheme to create new employment and to increase the incomes of the people in any given area?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). No single Working Group has been constituted to draw up detailed programmes to improve the rural economy. The draft plan contains the various measures and programmes that are intended to improve rural economy.

(c) Estimates of the employment potential of sectoral outlays and of the growth of incomes as a result of investment have also been given in the Plan document.

Financial Aid to Indo-Soviet Cultural Society

2493. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society is receiving any financial aid from the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, whether ISCUS has received permission from the Government for receiving foreign money; and

(c) the details of the income with their sources of the society since 1971?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) The Govt. of India have not received any intimation from the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society if they are receiving any financial aid from the Soviet Union.

(b) The Society does not require any permission of the Government under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 1976, to accept the foreign money.

(c) In view of (a) no details are available.

Selection to Indian Forest Service

2494. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many departmentally promoted officers of the Himachal Pradesh Government are being considered for the selection to Indian Forest Service without the basic qualification of Rangers training and Indian Forest College training from Dehradun during the last 5 years; and

(b) is there any provision to consider officers who do not possess the above basic qualification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b). According to the provisions of the Indian Forest Service (Appointment by Promotion) Regulation, 1966, members of the State Forest Service who are substantive in that service and have completed, on the first day of the January of the year in which the Selection Committee meets, has completed not less than 8 years of continuous service (whether officiating or substantive) are eligible for consideration for appointment to the Indian Forest Service by promotion. The Rules made under the All India Service Act do not