

**Discussion on Linking Ganga with Brahmaputra**

899. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that question of linking Brahmaputra and Ganga rivers has been discussed with Bangladesh during the recent talk on sharing the water, between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) and (b). The 18th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held at New Delhi between the 27th and 29th February, 1980. Discussions took place on the subject of Augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga, a task entrusted to the Commission in the November 1977 Agreement on the sharing of the Ganga Waters at Farakka and on Augmenting its flows and for which purpose India has proposed the construction of the Brahmaputra Ganga link, supplemented at the appropriate stage by storages on the Dihang, Subansiri and Barak rivers.

Differences on the issue of association of Nepal in the study of Bangladesh proposal persisted. It is proposed to resume the meeting early for finalising the record of discussions including the areas of difference.

**Rengali Irrigation Project in Orissa**

900. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have gone into the question of expediting the Rengali Irrigation Project in Orissa;

(b) if so, at what stage the project is; and

(c) what would be the irrigation potential of this project and what the financial involvement of the Centre and the State, if any, in this project will have?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) & (b). Yes, Sir. The project was approved by the Planning Commission in March, 1978 and preliminary works such as construction of residential buildings, construction survey of main canal and design of barrage, head-regulator, etc., have since been taken up.

The project is being sponsored for IDA credit assistance from the fiscal year 1982 and the preparation of project report as per World Bank norms is under progress in the State. The project is programmed to be completed by March, 1989.

(c) The project envisages annual irrigation of 4.23 lakh hectares. The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 233.64 crores.

Irrigation is a State subject and funds for execution of irrigation projects are provided by the State Governments within the frame work of their over-all developmental plans. Central assistance to States is given in the form of block loans and grants.

**Total Installed Power Capacity in Eastern Region**

901. SHRI ANANDA GOPAL MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total installed capacity of power stations in Eastern region;

(b) what is the total generation;

(c) what is the total demand of power at the moment for industry (core grade) and agriculture; and

(d) what measures are being taken to augment generation of power in the region?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY)**

(a) The total installed capacity of power stations in the Eastern Region as on 31-12-1979 was 5747 MW consisting of 4847 MW in utilities and 900 MW in non-utilities.

(b) The total energy generation in the Eastern Region during the period April, 1979 to January, 1980 was 12630 million units consisting of 10766 million units thermal and 1864 million units hydro.

(c) Unrestricted requirement of energy in the Eastern Region for the month of March, 1980 has been assessed at 1605 million units against which the anticipated availability is 1224 million units.

(d) A number of short term and long term measures have been and are being taken to improve power availability in the country. These measures include:—

(1) maximising generation from the existing installed capacity in the Central Sector. State Governments have also been advised to similarly maximise generation from their installed capacity.

(2) Expediting commissioning of new generation capacity in the Central sector, and advising the States to take similar steps.

(3) Monitoring of coal stocks at thermal power stations and ensuring availability of coal.

(4) Transfer of power from surplus to deficit areas.

(5) Arranging supply of spare parts from indigenous and foreign suppliers.

(6) Training of engineers for operation and maintenance of power stations

(7) Identification of deficiencies in design, equipment etc. and taking up a project renovation programme for

rectification/replacement etc, at a number of power stations.

**Allocation of Funds for Zamania Pump Canal in district Ghazipur, U.P.**

902. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) has any fund been allotted to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the construction of Zamania Pump Canal at District Ghazipur; and

(b) what is the amount and what is the detail of the progress of the work?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY):** (a) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, implemented and operated by the State Governments under their Development Plan. Central assistance is given in the form of block loans and grant for the State as a whole is not related to any sector of development or project.

(b) According to proposed Annual Plan of U. P. for 1980-81, total estimated cost of the scheme for increasing capacity of Zamania Pump Canal is Rs. 939 lakhs. The scheme has not been cleared by the Planning Commission so far, for want of replies of the State Government to C. W. C.'s comments already sent to them. The Government of U. P. have however taken up the execution of the Project. Actual expenditure upto the end of 1978-79 was Rs. 102.96 lakhs. Anticipated expenditure for 1979-80 is Rs. 200 lakhs. Working Group has also approved an outlay of Rs. 200 lakhs for 1980-81.