

Fertiliser Plant at Paradwip

3456. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) which other sites, besides Paradeep were taken into consideration for location of phosphatic fertiliser plants;

(b) whether technological examination indicated Paradwip as best site; and

(c) the reasons for delay in finalisation the location of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c). The indigenous production of phosphatic fertilizers being inadequate to meet the demand, measures are under way to identify additional phosphatic fertilizer plants to be taken up for implementation during the sixth plan period. Paradeep is one of the possible locations for these plants and a detailed feasibility report has been prepared by Madras Fertilizers Ltd. for setting up a plant at Paradeep. The processing of the report is on hand.

Rural Electrification in Tribal Area of Orissa

3457. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) amount earmarked for rural electrification in tribal areas of Orissa during 1978-79 and 1979-80 and the amount actually disbursed; and

(b) if the entire amount has not been disbursed, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The Rural Electrification Corporation had earmarked Rs. 3.73 crores during the year 1978-79 and Rs. 3.50 crores during 1979-80 for rural electrification schemes sanctioned in the tribal areas of

Orissa. The entire amount earmarked during both the years was also disbursed.

Silting of major Irrigation Projects of Orissa

3458. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state: *

(a) whether Government have any information that on account of lack of adequate measures for protection of inter-State river valley catchments major irrigation projects of Orissa are being silted and life of these natural projects is being reduced rapidly; and

(b) is it a fact that due to reluctance of the Union Government to bear full financial responsibility, no steps in this direction could be taken?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) Recognizing the necessity of reducing siltation of reservoirs, the Government of India, in the Department of Agriculture launched a Centrally sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Inter-state catchments of River Valley Projects. Under this scheme, the catchments of Hirakund (in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa), Machkund (in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh) and Rengali-Mandira (in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa) have been included. The programme of soil conservation in the catchments of Hirakund and Muchkund was taken up in the 3rd five year plan, while in the case of Rengali-Mandira, during the fifth plan. According to the information supplied by the Department of Agriculture, sedimentation surveys carried out at the Hirakund and Muchkund Reservoirs on the basis of inflow-outflow data reveal that the rate of siltation has been reduced.

(b) No, Sir. Till 1978-79, the Scheme was in operation with 50 per cent grant and 50 per cent loan advances to the States. However, subsequently as per the decision of the National Develop-