

Ganga waters at Farakka and on augmenting its flows which will remain in force for five years unless extended by mutual agreement.

In the dry season there is not enough water in the Ganga to meet the full requirements of both the countries. The Agreement therefore provides for the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission to carry out investigations and study of schemes relating to the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga proposed by either Government. Though the Indian and Bangladesh proposals for this purpose are before the Commission not much progress has so far been made in the study thereof by the Commission. The Agreement provides for reviews the first of which will be due by November, 1980 and again later in May 1982. The matter of providing the requisite flows to Calcutta Port will be raised during these reviews. All possible efforts will also be made to expedite a long term scheme for augmentation of Ganga flows in the dry season so that the requirements of Calcutta Port are fully met.

#### **Magneto Hydro-Dynamic Method of transforming Thermal Energy**

213. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the magneto hydro-dynamic method of transforming thermal energy yields better power output;

(b) whether the MHD experimental model in Tiruchinappally has been completed; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to develop MHD as part of long term energy strategy?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) The Gageneto Hydro-Dynamic method of transforming thermal energy is theretically expected to yield more efficient power

output. However, no continued commercial experience with such a process is yet available. The reliability and availability of such units, therefore, cannot be confirmed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Working Group on Energy Policy constituted by the Government has not envisaged that the MHD technology would contribute in any significant way to the energy programme upto the year 2000. The efforts are at present only in the R&D stage.

#### **Action taken for boosting Coal Production as announced by Energy Minister**

214. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state the action taken on the measures for boosting coal production as announced by the Minister of Energy while inaugurating the seminar on the prospects of Indian Exports sponsored by the All India Manufacturers Association in Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): The following steps have already been taken to step up coal production:

(i) Allocating higher priority for supply of power to the coalmines.

(ii) Importing explosives to bridge the gap in the indigenous availability.

(iii) Improving the supply of HSD to the coalmines by allotting it a higher priority.

(iv) Controlling absenteeism amongst the miners particularly in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

(v) Improving the law and order situation in the coalfields with the assistance of the State Governments.

As a result of these steps production in April and May 1980 has already exceeded the production in these months last year by 2.0 million tonnes.

### Supply of Cooking Gas to New Consumers

215. SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state: —

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that there is considerable demand for gas to be used for domestic (cooking) purpose; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take necessary steps to supply the gas to new consumers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The availability of cooking gas in the country is anticipated to increase progressively from about the beginning of 1981 with the commissioning of:—

(i) Facilities for separation of LPG from Bombay High Associated Gas

(ii) Mathura Refinery;

(iii) Secondary Processing Facilities at Koyali Refinery.

The release of new gas connections will be possible for various householders in various parts of the country after the completion of the above schemes.

### Measures to protect from Floods in various Regions

216. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken necessary steps to strengthen protection measures in view of the

ensuing flood season, in various regions, particularly in Ganga and Brahmaputra belts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDEY): (a) and (b). The Central Government has requested all the States and Union territories to undertake a timely review of arrangements for tackling the situation in the flood-prone areas and to take precautionary measures as may be required to ensure that they are not caught unprepared during the ensuing monsoon season. Some of the important points that require attention have been identified. These include the timely completion of flood control schemes already taken up, pre-monsoon inspection and maintenance of flood control works, arrangements for flood fighting and stacking of material at vulnerable location and preparation of detailed preparedness plan for areas requiring special attention.

भाखड़ा बांध से गंग नहर तथा भाखड़ा नहर को दिए गए पानी की मात्रा

217. श्री मनफूल सिंह चौधरी: क्या ऊर्जा और सिंचाई तथा कौयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भाखड़ा डैम वर्कमें से गंग नहर को पानी के वितरण का कार्य पंजाब सरकार के नियंत्रण में है;

(ख) भाखड़ा बांध से गंग नहर तथा भाखड़ा नहर को दिए गये पानी की मात्रा कितनी कितनी है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन नहरों को भाखड़ा से पर्याप्त पानी नहीं मिलता है;

(घ) राजस्थान में नहरों को दिए जाने वाले पानी के भाग पर पंजाब सरकार के नियंत्रण के क्या कारण हैं;

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि भाखड़ा नियंत्रण बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष से गंग नहर तथा भाखड़ा नहर को पूरा पानी देने का अनुरोध किया गया था; और