

(iv) The Cabinet Committee on the Industrial Infrastructure also keeps a continual watch on the production and movement of coal, particularly to power stations.

Linking of Brahmaputra with Ganga

287. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal with Government to connect water of Brahmaputra with Ganga; and

(b) if so, what is the present stage of this work and how long it is expected to take for completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDEY). (a) and (b). Under the Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on the sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka and on augmenting its flows (1977), the Governments of India and Bangladesh have agreed that the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission shall carry out investigation and study of schemes relating to the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga, proposed or to be proposed by either Government with a view to finding a solution which is economical and feasible and that the JRC shall submit its recommendations to the two Govts. The two Governments shall consider recommendations within a period of three years. The two Governments shall consider and agree upon a scheme or schemes, taking into account the recommendations of the Joint Rivers Commission, and take necessary measures to implement it or them as speedily as possible.

Accordingly the two Governments exchanged their respective proposals in March 1978. The Indian proposal envisages linking the Ganga with the Brahmaputra by a link canal, supplemented by storages on the Brahmaputra system at the appropriate stage. The Bangladesh proposal envisages building storages on the tributaries of the Ganga in India and in Nepal. The Commission has not yet started the requisite studies.

Drilling operation in Gujarat by Oil and Natural Gas Commission

288. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new drilling operation in Gujarat State has been conducted by O.N.G.C. during the last one year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the result achieved?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. ONGC conducted drilling operations at three new places in Gujarat, namely, Poliyad, North Wamej and Laxmanpura, during the last year; i.e. 1979-80.

(b) One well each was drilled on Poliyad and North Wamej structures during 1979-80. No oil and gas flow were observed in these wells during production testing carried out by deep drilling rig. The well on the Laxmanpura structure is still under drilling.

Dams of Narmada Irrigation Project

289. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present construction position of various dams of Narmada Irrigation Project;

(b) whether Sardar Sarovar Project has been cleared by the Central Water Commission and Planning Commission; and

(c) if not, how long they are expected to take to clear it?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) Four projects of Gujarat (three major and one medium) and ten projects of