

Rehabilitation and Reclamation Organisation at Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar

292. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two units of Rehabilitation and Reclamation Organisation at present stationed at Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar, are lying idle, consisting of about 30 very costly foreign-built tractors/bulldozers.

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to utilise these costly machines;

(c) whether the said machinery are require by the border Roads Organisation or the Andaman P.W.D. for Road construction etc.;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry of Rehabilitation propose either to hand over these materials to Andaman or the Border Roads Organisations for use or to take back these machineries to mainland; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With the gradual completion of rehabilitation schemes in the country, these units are no longer required.

(c) to (e). The Ministry of Home Affairs as well as the Border Roads Development Board have indicated that these machineries are not required by the Andaman Administration or by the Border Roads Development Board. They were asked again recently and have confirmed that there is no change in the position.

Offers have been made to the Irrigation and Forest Departments of the Government of Madhya Pradesh for taking over these machineries even free of cost, alongwith the staff. Transferring the machine-ise to mainland being a very expensive proposition, these machineries are proposed to be disposed of on as is where is basis.

Scheme for Sluice Gate-cum-Bridge Across River Khirori

293. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to reply given to USQ. No. 1883 on 3rd March 1975 regarding scheme for sluice gate-cum-bridge across River Khirori and State:

(a) whether further discharge data required for formulation of the scheme of sluice gate cum-bridge across river Khirori between Hariharpur-Kaligaon and near Muraitha has since been collected;

(b) if so, detailed thereabout;

(c) whether Darbhanga District consultative and Development Committee meetings held on 9th August 1980 had decided for undertaking the above projects; and

(d) what are the schedule and other details for these two projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Extension of Embankment of River Kamla Beyond Jayanagar in Bihar

294. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ. No. 3587 on 9th December

1974 regarding extension of the embankments beyond Jayanagar in Bihar and state:

(a) whether data for extending the Kamla embankments beyond Jayanagar in India to Mirchaya in Nepal have since been collected and if so, the details of the steps and schedule for completing embankment extension;

(b) whether there was an agreement with the Government of Nepal for this embankment extension; if so, the details thereabout; and

(c) whether the Government of Nepal have constructed a barrage at Godar which will turn Eastern and Western Kamla canals useless; if so, whether it is proposed to have a multi-purpose dam over Kamla at Sesapani or at least a storage reservoir above weir at Jayanagar; if so, details thereabout and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Film on Mahatma Gandhi

295. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a final decision to make a film on Mahatma Gandhi by the British Actor Richard Attenborough;

(b) if so, whether he has also selected the cast for some of the prominent roles in the film; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total estimated cost of the production of the film including the foreign exchange component thereof and how much amount is to be paid by the Government of India;

(d) whether some finances are also being made available by private film producers; if so, who are they;

(e) whether the script has been vetted by Government or by some private agencies in view of the tirade of criticism against the project; and

(f) how long will it take for the film to be completed and when is first likely to be exhibited either in India or abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some selections have been made Others are in the process of being made.

(c) The cost of the production will be approximately \$ 21 million (Rs. 17 crores approximately). Government of India's contribution to the project will be limited to Rs. 5 crores through the National Film Development Corporation (N.F.D.C.).

(d) Private investors from the Indian film industry have been invited to invest in the project through an N.F.D.C.—partnered company being set up for this co-production.

(e) The script of the film was examined by eminent people in India who have been associated with interpretation of Mahatma Gandhi's life and message for a long time.

(f) Shooting of the film is expected to commence toward the end of November, 1980 and is expected to be completed by middle of May, 1981. Processing and printing will take some more time. The film is likely to be released by the first quarter of 1982.