

(a) whether the demand of revision of timings has since been agreed to by the Department;

(b) if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the matter is not still finalised the reasons of the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) to (c). The matter is under examination and may take some more time to arrive at a decision.

#### Over Time Allowance to Postmen

3710. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are orders prescribing payment of overtime allowance to the Postmen if he is to handle excess work on Mondays and before or after festival holidays;

(b) whether Government are considering payment of flat rate of Rs. 4 if the entire work of an absentee postman is delivered by a postman in addition to his normal duties; and

(c) the reasons why the Postmen are denied overtime allowance at the hourly rates for the over work they have been doing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) No Sir.

(b) A Postman is already entitled to get OTA at a flat rate of Rs. 4 per  
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day when he is entrusted the work of an absentee Postman in addition to his normal duties.

(c) OTA on hourly rate basis is admissible only to such categories of staff who have fixed duty hours which are susceptible to exact check and measurement. The duties of a Postman being of predominantly in the field and of out-door nature do not fulfill these conditions.

#### Irrigation schemes of West Bengal Pending clearance

3711. SHRI HUNNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) total number of irrigation schemes submitted by the West Bengal which are awaiting clearance of the Planning Commission; and

(b) what are the salient features of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Eight major and three medium irrigation schemes have been submitted by the Government of West Bengal. Of these three major schemes, namely, Upper Kangsabti Reservoir, Bamangola-Habibpur and Tangon Valley have already been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission and the remaining eight projects are pending with the State Government, for furnishing replies/compliance to observations of the Central Water Commission.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## Statement

*Irrigation schemes of West Bengal pending clearance*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	District benefitted	Estimated cost Rs. lakhs	Benefits 1000 ha.
1	2	3	4	5
<b>MAJOR SCHEMES</b>				
1.	Lower Dolong Reservoir Scheme	Midnapore	1136.00	20.3
2.	Modernisation of Kangsabati Reservoir Project	Purulia, Bankura	2855.00	32.37
3.	Damodar Valley Project Barrage-Irrigation Modernisation Scheme Phase I, Selective lining of canals.	Bankura, Burdwan Hooghly	1570.00	82.77
4.	Lining of Mayurakshi Canal System	Birbhum Murshidabad Burdwan	2426.21	55.69
5.	Tarapheni Reservoir Scheme	Midnapore	450.00	12.15
6.	Upper Kangsabati Reservoir Project	Purulia Bankura	4384.00	59.115
7.	Bamangola-Habibpur Irrigation Scheme	Malda	2167.65	31.09
8.	Tangon Valley Irrigation Scheme	West Dinajpur	1360.00	43.456
<b>MEDIUM SCHEMES</b>				
1.	Kush Karni Reservoir Scheme	Birbhum	215.66	3.39
2.	Gazol Lift Irrigation Scheme	Malda	216.00	18.765
3.	Bhairab Banki Reservoir Scheme	Bankura Midnapur	450.00	6.32

**New Technology for Prawn**

3712. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to adopt new technology for the production of prawn and improve the economy of fishermen;

(b) whether efforts will be made for the growth of prawns in the ponds of different States; and

(c) if so, the detailed programme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Prawn/fish culture in brackish water areas has traditionally been undertaken in certain parts of the country. But with improvements higher productivity could be achieved. Hence the research institutions have accorded high priority in further developing the technology for