

(b) if so, the details regarding the decisions taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allocation of Kanhar waters agreed to in the meeting held on 19-2-1982 is as under :—

Bihar	—	0.43 MAF
Uttar Pradesh	--	0.25 MAF
Madhya Pradesh	—	0.62 MAF
		Total 1.30 MAF

Use of Compost Manure

4554. **SHRI H. N. NANJE GOUDA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at Indore, the Prime Minister had recently pleaded with the farmers that they should use more of compost manure so that import of chemical fertiliser involving huge sums of money in foreign exchange can be curtailed and the same is utilised for other development projects :

(b) if so, the production of compost manure in the country and those imported during 1979 and 1980 ;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for increased production of compost manure during the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(d) if so, the out lay proposed and the increase in production envisaged ;

(e) whether Government are aware that the cost of compost manure in some States is much higher than the urea and other nitrogenous manure; and

(f) if so, steps taken to see that the price of compost manure is made attractive so that the farmers of their own are induced to utilise it more and more ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : (a) A news item to this effect had appeared on the 16th February, 1982 in the N. I. Patrika, Allahabad.

(b) Compost manure is not imported. The annual production of compost in the country during 1979-80 and 1980-81 was of the order of 232 million tonnes.

(c) and (d). Ministry of Agriculture have already sanctioned a National Project for Biogas Development for the Sixth Plan period with an outlay of Rs. 50 crores. The project envisages target up of 4,00,000 bio-gas units during the plan period which are estimated to yield about 10 million tonnes of manure per annum.

(e) and (f). In rural areas, compost is produced by the farmers themselves at hardly any cost.

Soil erosion due to water and wind

4555. **SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) What is the estimated loss due to the soil erosion due to water and wind per year ; and

(b) the measures taken by Government in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) No assessment is carried out from year to year of the loss suffered on account of soil erosion due to water and wind on a country-