

Approval of Salauli Irrigation Project

1535. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Salauli irrigation project of Goa has been approved by Government;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the important features of the project and the benefits to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). The Project has been accepted by the Planning Commission in June, 1982 at an estimated cost of Rs. 3529.03 lakhs.

(c) The project envisages construction of an earthen dam across the west flowing river Sanguem and a left bank canal taking off from the dam. The gross storage of the dam is 8.275 T.M.C. (Thousand Million Cubic Meters). This Project on completion will provide an irrigation benefit of 21,244 hectares. It is also proposed to provide from the reservoir about 85 million gallons of water per day towards domestic and industrial needs.

Offer of collaboration from Switzerland in afforestation

1536. SHRI R. P. GEAKWAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Switzerland had offered to collaborate with India in the fields of afforestation, social forestry and environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Switzerland has indicated its desire to collaborate with the Government of India in Integrated Hill De-

velopment in the Northern Hill Regions of the country. Emphasis is to be on afforestation, soil conservation and restoration of the ecological balance. It has also indicated a desire to collaborate in social forestry programme in India based on the participation of the village communities.

2. For obtaining such collaboration, a project entitled "Operation Soil Watch Aglar Nadi" in the Tehri District of Uttar Pradesh, estimated to cost Rs. 8.8 crores over a period of five years, has been formulated. The project is multi-disciplinary in nature and aims at the integrated development of the Aglar Nadi watershed covering about 481 sq. kms. The main activities of the project are afforestation, rehabilitation of degraded forests, soil and water conservation measures in both forest as well as agricultural lands, development of pastures, etc. The project is presently being processed for posing formally to the Swiss authorities.

3. Switzerland's offer for collaboration in the field of social forestry is, however, still under consideration.

Crops lost due to flood, cyclone and drought

1537. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise worth of crops lost due to flood, cyclone and drought during the current year; and

(b) assistance given by the Central Government to the State, State-wise details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) Loss of crops State-wise on account