

(4) Hydro capacity aggregating to 780 MW will be commissioned at Baira-Siul, Salal and Kishtwar. These stations will feed energy into the Northern Grid.

(5) 205 MW of Hydro Capacity will be installed at Shanan Upper Bari Doab Canal and Anandpur Sahib.

(c) On account of short fall in power supply from Bhakra the main source of power, it was suggested by the Punjab Chief Minister that the Nangal Fertiliser Factory should be closed for a few months or for such time as additional adequate supply becomes available from Rajasthan Atomic Power Project. It has been decided by the Government that the power supply to Nangal Fertilizer Factory be reduced from 98 MW to 60 MW from 10th February 1973 to 10th April, 1973.

Non-cooperation movement by All India Station Masters' Association

1116. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Station Masters' Association has decided to launch 'non-cooperation movement;

(b) if so, what are its demands; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet its demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) This unrecognised Association had threatened to launch a "non-cooperation movement" with effect from 16th December, 1972.

(b) and (c). A statement is giving the demands and Government's reaction thereto, is laid on the Table of

the House. [Place in Library. See No. LT-4292/73.]

Change of Courses by Hill Rivers of North Bengal

1117. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all the hill rivers of North Bengal are changing their courses;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to save the large number of people and the entire-tea-garden area of the North Bengal; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). It has been noticed that the rivers of North Bengal have a tendency to change their courses particularly in the upper reaches. For the protection of people and agricultural lands, including tea gardens, a number of measures have been taken by the State Government. The measures implemented include construction of embankments, anti-erosion works and river training works. These have provided protection to an area of 1.6 lakh ha. so far. More works are being planned and implemented for the protection of further areas.

A Flood Forecasting Unit has been set up at Jalpaiguri under the Central Sector and has been operating since 1969.

The North Bengal Flood Control Commission, set up by the Government of West Bengal, is presently engaged in the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the protection of people and valuable areas from the ravages of floods and erosion in North Bengal rivers.