

Kerala Schemes for developing Medium Irrigation facilities during 1973-74

4771. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes submitted by Kerala Government for developing medium irrigation facilities in that State for the ensuing year 1973-74 ;

(b) the cost thereof and the Central assistance sought for the same ; and

(c) whether the same have been approved by Government and if so, with what modifications, and if not, the reasons for the delay in according the approval ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c), Seven major irrigation projects are at present under construction in Kerala and the State Government are finding difficulties in providing adequate funds for these. Certain new schemes also have been sent up by the State Government as follows:—

Name of scheme	Estimated cost (in crores of rupees)
1. Edamalayar	19.67
2. Banasurassagar	11.37
3. Tirumelli	6.50
4. Kerala Bhavani (Tail race utilisation)	8.05
5. Karapuzha	3.89
6. Attappaday	4.76
7. Noolapuzha	2.90
8. Manjat	3.18
9. Thender	2.99

The replies of the State Government to the comments of the Central Water and Power Commission on Edamalayar, Karapuzha and Kerala Bhavani, projects have been received which are under scrutiny in the commission ; the replies in respect of the other projects are still awaited from the State Government.

Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are therefore to be financed from the State Plans. Central assistance is for the State Plans as a whole, not related to any specific head of development or project.

Thermal Power Station

4772. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is total number of Thermal Power Stations in the country ;

(b) the places where they are located ; and

(c) the generating capacity of these Stations and their actual production ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c), The total number of major Thermal Power Stations in the country is 67. Their location, installed generating capacity and the actual production during 1972 are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House *Placed in library, See. No. LT-4617/73*.

Representation against Closure of Railway out Agencies at Nadaun, Jwalamukhi Praggur, and other places in Himachal Pradesh

4773. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Railway Out Agencies at Nadaun, Jwalamukhi, Praggur and

other places in Himachal Pradesh were closed down some time back ;

(b) whether a representation to restore them was made to the Railway Ministry; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :

(a) Yes; the Out Agencies at Nadaun, Jwalamukhi, Pragpur, Gagret and Bharwain were closed down in August, 1967.

(b) Yes.

(c) As no contractors were forth coming to work the Out Agencies due to poor prospects of traffic, the Northern Railway Administration has persuaded the Mandi-Kulu Road Transport Corporation to work the same. The Corporation has agreed to work the Out Agencies for booking of parcels and goods in "smalls" once a week only. The Out Agencies have since started functioning accordingly from the dates shown below :—

<i>Name of Out Agency</i>	<i>Date from which opened</i>	<i>Date on which functions</i>
Gagret	20.1.1973	Monday
Bharwain	15.12.1972	Tuesday
Pragpur	15.12.1972	Wednesday
Nadaun	15.12.1972	Thursday
Jwalamukhi	20.1.1973	Friday
Mandir		

Expansion of Nangal Fertilizer Plant

4774. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken for the expansion of the F. C. I. Unit at Nangal in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the size and the capacity to which the Unit would be expanded, the estimated increase in the serving personnel and the financial implications of the proposed expansion?

(THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Nangal Expansion Project, when implemented, will create new plant capacity of 900 tonnes of ammonia per day; out of this, 600 tonnes of ammonia will be utilised for the production of 1000 tonnes of urea per day and the balance would be utilized in the existing plant. The total cost of the expansion project is estimated at about Rs. 75.60 crores, including a foreign exchange component of about Rs. 39 crores. The World Bank (IDA) has agreed to grant a loan of \$58 million towards financing this project. The project is expected to be completed by about end of 1975 and the estimated additional manpower requirement would be about 580.

Amendment of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869

4775. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an appeal has been made to the Prime Minister, on behalf of the Churches of North India on the 11th January, 1973, for amending the Indian Divorce Act, 1869 and for bringing it in conformity with the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?