

POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal in this regard was received in the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

(b) This will be processed by the Ministry of Steel & Mines on receipt of revised estimates of cost of the scheme.

Loan for construction of Godavari Diversification Scheme

5166. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have been requested by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs for commencing the construction work of Godavari Diversification Scheme ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. A request in this regard has been received in the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

(b) The Ministry of Steel and Mines have intimated that the Godavari Diversion Scheme, which is to be designed to meet the water requirements of the proposed steel plant at Visakhapatnam, is an integral part of the steel project. Work on this scheme can be taken up only after the quantitative and qualitative requirements of water, phasing of execution of works etc; are worked out in the Detailed Project Report, the preparation of which is to be taken up soon.

Complaints from Assam Regarding Central Loan to Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission

5167. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from Assam Government

that the Centre did not fulfil its commitment in respect of loan assistance to the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission;

(b) if so, the gist thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). The State Government of Assam requested for the release of loan assistance of Rs. 2.5 crores to meet the immediate expenditure on the works under-taken by the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission during 1973-74 and also the liabilities spilling over from 1972-73 as the provision of Rs. 69 lakhs made by them in their budget had been exhausted.

Early in 1972, the Centre had decided after discussions with the officials of the State Government that the total requirement for the works under-taken by Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission during the Fourth Plan should be fixed at Rs. 29.45 crores. Out of this Rs. 23.53 crores would be met by the State Government from its own plan provision and the balance Rs. 5.92 crores would be provided by the Centre as additional assistance to the State. Taking into account the expenditure incurred in the State Plan upto the end of March, 1973, the outlay approved and earmarked in the State's Annual Plan 1973-74 was Rs. 4.33 crores. The Central assistance utilised by the State upto the end of March, 1973, was Rs. 2.61 crores.

The State Government have been informed that it would be possible for them to get an assistance of Rs. 3.32 crores from the Centre during 1973-74, which together with the earmarked provision in the State Plan of Rs. 4.33 crores would enable them to implement a programme of Rs. 7.65 crores during the year. Loan assistance from the Centre would, however, become available to the State Government only after the expenditure in the current year exceeds the earmarked outlay of Rs. 4.33 crores in the State Plan.