

Program of Irrigation and Power projects in West Bengal

2688. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of Irrigation and Power projects in West Bengal has been rather slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to accelerate the pace of progress of those projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Some of the irrigation and power projects being executed by the West Bengal Government have taken some what longer than anticipated. This is mainly due to shortage of funds, rise in costs, scarcity of construction materials and delay in receipt of equipment. The projects under execution are now in an advance stage of execution and every efforts is being made by the State Government to accelerate the pace of construction on these projects

Committee for fixation of prices of petroleum products

2689. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high power committee for fixation of prices of petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the composition of the committee and other salient features thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Government have decided to set up a Pricing Committee to examine and report on the pricing of

petroleum products. The Committee has yet to be formally constituted.

Disruption of transportation of commercial goods due to cancellation of goods trains

2690. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transportation of commercial goods was disrupted as a result of the cancellation of several goods trains on Northern and North Eastern Railways owing to shortage of coal and wagons during the last year;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) On North Eastern Railway only due to agitation by telecommunication staff, loco maintenance staff, carriage and wagon staff and loco running staff, Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters on several occasions, goods train movement was seriously affected and goods trains cancelled, preventing even loaded loco coal wagons to be carried from transhipment points to different loco sheds on the Railway.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Plan for Co-operative Regional Development of Fertiliser Industry

2691. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a plan for Co-operative Regional Development of Fertiliser Industry is in the offing; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ