

### Vamanapuram Irrigation Project in Kerala

816. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vamanapuram Irrigation Project has been included in the Fifth Plan projects of Kerala;

(b) whether the Central Water and Power Commission has given approval to the schemes; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) The Fifth Plan of Kerala is yet to be finalised.

(b) and (c). The project envisages the construction of a dam across the Vamanapuram river at Valayanki and a left bank canal system to irrigate 8000 ha. of first and second crops (of paddy) and 4000 ha. of third crop (of paddy). The project report was received in the Central Water and Power Commission in December, 1973 and is under examination.

### Import of crude oil and the Foreign Exchange spent therefor

517. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of crude oil imported in the country during the last three years, year-wise and the total amount paid in foreign exchange as its price in those years;

(b) how far our foreign exchange payment is expected to increase on crude imports due to the recent rise in the prices of crude oil if we continue to import the same quantity as in the previous years; and

(c) how far the different measures taken by Government have helped to minimise the foreign exchange drain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The information is as under:—

Year	Quantity '000' tonnes	Value in Rs./crores
1971	12,688	139.88
1972	12,310	144.25
1973*	13,386	240.71

\*Provisional

(b) and (c): It is not possible at this stage to indicate the increase in foreign exchange payments on account of crude imports because of uncertainty of crude oil prices. For the same reasons it is too early to make any fair assessment of the saving in foreign exchange outgo consequent on the various measures taken by Government.

### Through Train Service between Bombay and Cochin

818 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala have requested the Central Government to introduce a through train service between Bombay and Cochin to reduce the inconvenience to a large number of passengers in this section, and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto and the steps taken in this regard?

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