

**Storing of Excess Monsoon Water for use in dry season**

842. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the high cost of dam construction, large submergence of flat and fertile lands, heavy losses of water by evaporation and percolation and short life of dams by heavy siltation in Gangetic basin, the Government has thought of storing excess Monsoon water of Gangetic basin rivers for use in dry season; and

(b) if so, broad outlines and costs involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) and (b). Major storage projects on rivers like Chambal, Ramganga, Rihand and Damodar have already been built in the Ganga Basin after careful investigation of their benefit cost aspects, submergence, water-tightness, silt content and evaporation losses. These have been found to be quite successful. The Tehri and Kangsabati projects are currently under construction. The State Governments have also under consideration proposals for new storage projects like Bansagar, Rajghat, Kanhar, North Koel Parbati etc. in the Ganga Basin.

With its deep alluvium, the Ganga Basin appears to afford scope for underground storage of excess monsoon flows. Proposals to explore the possibilities of such underground storages are under consideration.

**Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Bill**

843. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration was asked by the Ministry of Works and Housing in 1973 to pass the Delhi Rent Control (Amendment)

Bill in a specially convened session of the Delhi Metropolitan Council and the same was passed by them and forwarded to the Ministry for introduction in Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons for not introducing in and considering and passing the same Bill by Parliament so far;

(c) whether during the Twelfth Session of Lok Sabha, it was stated in reply to a question that the Bill is proposed to be introduced in that current Session but the same was not introduced; and

(d) when the said Bill is proposed to be brought before the Parliament definitely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The Delhi Administration was asked in November, 1972 to place the matter relating to the amendment of the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958, before the Metropolitan Council, Delhi, and communicate its views to this Ministry. A copy of the Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Bill, as recommended by the Metropolitan Council in a Short Notice Session, was received from the Delhi Administration in August, 1973.

(b) The Metropolitan Council had made several suggestions and these had to be examined in consultation with the various concerned Ministries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Bill is likely to be introduced in the current Session of Parliament.

**Seniority of Assistant Engineers Class II in C.P.W.D.**

844. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 155 on the 11th November, 1974 and place on the Table of the House:

(a) brief on the decision of Delhi High Court on the 5th November, 1971

in case it was not regarding seniority of Assistant Engineers, Class II in CPWD for confirmation and promotion purposes;

(b) a copy of the directive of the Supreme Court against the decision of the Delhi High Court dated the 5th November, 1971; and

(c) state the reasons for not confirming the Assistant Engineers Class II after the 5th November, 1971 till the directive against (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). A copy of the judgement of the Delhi High Court together with a copy of the orders of the Supreme Court, will be obtained and placed on the table of the House.

(c) As already indicated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 155 on the 11th November, 1974, appointments to the grade of Assistant Engineers used to be made by various methods and this used to be done according to a quota. As the Delhi High Court have held that the quotas for appointment to the grade of Assistant Engineers have not been properly determined, the seniority list which was based on the quota rule, was required to be revised. A revised seniority list was accordingly prepared but the Union Public Service Commission have advised re-examination of the list on certain principles suggested by them. Confirmation can only be made after the seniority list has been revised and even so, as per directive of the Supreme Court, such confirmations will be subject to final adjustments as a result of ultimate decision of that Court in the writ petition filed by some of the direct recruit Assistant Engineers against the judgement of the Delhi High Court.

**Take over of procurement and Distribution of wheat and rice**

845. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has since been taken to take over procurement and distribution of wheat and rice;

(b) whether decision has not yet been taken because of the pressure from the foodgrain dealers; and

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). Under the existing policy, foodgrains, including wheat and rice, are already being procured by the State Governments, Food Corporation of India and other public agencies for issue through the public distribution system.

**Request from Tamil Nadu to Andhra Pradesh and Punjab for Supply of Rice**

847. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Tamilnadu Government has urged Andhra Pradesh and Punjab to supply a certain quantity of rice to Tamil Nadu immediately; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the States to the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Tamil Nadu Government have informed that they approached the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Punjab in early January for supply of rice but the latter asked them to obtain the concurrence of the Government of India as the surplus quantities with them are intended for the Central pool.