

Farakka Barrage

8112. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a serious accident in the right bank of Farakka Barrage ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b). On the 17th March, 1968, when the vertical reinforcements of the tenth pier of the main barrage were being fixed, the reinforcements along with the staging and cross bracing collapsed along with the pier line. As a result, one of the workers of the contractor was seriously injured and unfortunately succumbed on the way to the Project Hospital. Four other workers received minor injuries. They were admitted to the Project Hospital for treatment and were released after four days. They resumed their duties after release from the Hospital.

Swarna Project in Andhra Pradesh

8113. SHRI GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) when the work on Swarna Project in Andhra Pradesh was started and what are its benefits ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work has been greatly delayed ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to complete the project ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) The work on Swarna Project in Andhra Pradesh was started in February, 1959. Irrigation benefits of the Project are as follows :—

Abi.	7,000 acres.
Tabi.	2,130 acres.

(b) Yes.

(c) Delay in acquisition of lands coming under submersion. Acquisition of the lands is under negotiations,

Project at Sarju in U. P.

8114. SHRI GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey of the project at Sarju in Uttar Pradesh has been completed ;

(b) if so, the benefits likely to accrue therefrom ; and

(c) when it is likely to be taken up ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The first stage will ensure annual irrigation of 15 lakh acres under the Sarda Canal System in the districts of Rae-Bareilly Pratapgarh, Allahabad, Barabanki, Sultanpur, Jaunpur and Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh. This is besides additional irrigation of about 4 to 5 lakhs of acres in the upper reaches of Sarda Canal. In the second stage, the total annual irrigation will increase to 30 lakh acres.

(c) Soon.

Overdrawal by Orissa

8115. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the overdrawal of the Orissa Government from the Reserve Bank of India by the 29th February, 1968 and the 31st March, 1968 ;

(b) when this overdraft was cleared and the reasons for this large overdrawal ; and

(c) whether without any firm assurance from the Central Government the State Government had taken into account an additional Central assistance of Rs. 9 crores in framing the budget estimate for 1967-68 ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) The figures of overdrawal were as follows :

29th February : Rs. 3.65 crores,