

Survey of Alaknanda Valley for Generation of Power

5007. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been made of the Alaknanda Valley which is reported to have very high potentiality for generation of power ;

(b) whether Government will place on the Table the detailed report of the survey made ; and

(c) action being taken by Government to harness such mighty potentialities for Hydro-Electric Power ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). The preliminary survey made by the Central Water and Power Commission in respect of power potentialities of the Alaknanda Basin is being followed up by detailed investigations. The U. P. authorities have practically completed investigations on the Vishnu-Prayag Scheme and the project report is under preparation. The Government of Uttar Pradesh propose to take up the Vishnu Prayag Scheme for implementation during the Fifth Plan. Investigations are in progress on the Bowala-Nandprayag and Nandprayag-Langasu Schemes.

Military Farms run by Defence Department

5008. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Military Farms run by the Defence Department ;

(b) the States in which each is located ;

(c) the acreage of each Farm ; and

(d) how their production is utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA) : (a) There are

77 Military Farms Installations in the country, comprising 30 Cattle Holding Farms, 15 Non-cattle Holding Farms, 23 Military Farm Depots and 9 Military Farm Bailing Depots.

(b) and (c). A Statement, giving the requisite information, is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—4146/70*]

(d) Military Farm lands are used primarily for growing green fodder and hay, which are fed to Army animals. Grains and vegetables are also produced where the land holding permits. Grains are generally sold to the Food/Seed Corporation of India or by public auction after meeting the seed requirements of the Farms ; vegetables are generally supplied to troops. The dairy products are issued to service personnel and other authorised personnel.

Deterioration of stock of Low Grade Tobacco kept for Export

5009. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 25 per cent of the 3.11 million kg. of accumulated stock of low-grade tobacco kept for export deteriorated to such an extent that it ceased to be exportable ;

(b) the reasons for delaying the decision to remove minimum floor prices thereby allowing the wastage of precious exportable tobacco ; and

(c) whether all exportable stocks have by now been cleared as envisaged earlier ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). There was some accumulation of low grades of tobacco which have been partly exported. Deterioration of tobacco takes place due to passage of time and bad storage. The proposals to remove minimum floor prices for lower grades made by the Tobacco Export Promotion Council was immediately accepted. Efforts are being made to clear the old stocks of tobacco as early as possible.