

- (iii) Revenues from property development, subordinate debt towards land cost and dedicated taxes and levies – approx. 14%.

(c) The project is slated to be completed by 2005 A.D.

[Translation]

Hydro Power Project at Nainpur

5041. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to set up a 750 KW Hydro Power Project at Nainpur, Mandla District in Madhya Pradesh was sanctioned by the Central Electricity Authority in 1984;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which the work on this project is likely to be commenced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB) submitted a project report of 2x300 KW capacity Thanwar Mini Hydel Project, at an estimated cost of Rs. 105.63 lakhs which was proposed on Thanwar Irrigation Project located in Nainpur Tehsil of Mandla District to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in December 1982, for approval. This was eventually sanctioned by MPEB in 1984.

(b) & (c) The project report was reviewed by MPEB after comments were received by CEA and Central Water Commission (CWC) and accordingly the installed capacity was revised to 2x250 KW at an estimated cost of Rs. 82.9 lakhs based on review of water availability studies. Since this cost was less than Rs. 100 lakhs, the MPEB was empowered to approve the project report. Administrative approval was accorded to the project in July 1984. The State Irrigation Department also gave their clearance in January 1986. The tenders for turn-key execution was invited in 1988 which was eventually rejected because of receipt of high rates. Due to financial constraints prevailing with the Board, no new projects were undertaken. The project was posed for privatisation in 1994 but due to lack of interest of allottee firm. The allotment was cancelled in September 1995. The irrigation and dam canal works have been completed in 1996 and the project proposed to be posed again for privatisation.

[English]

Cultivation of Opium

5042. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNA DAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under opium cultivation in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any increase in hectareage during the last ten years;

(c) whether there is any pressure from the International Narcotics Control Board to increase the area under opium cultivation; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The total area under opium cultivation during the crop year 1996-97 was 29,797.900 hectares. The state-wise break-up is as under :

(i) Madhya Pradesh	16573.500 hectares
(ii) Rajasthan	12512.700 hectares
(iii) Uttar Pradesh	711.700 hectares

(b) There has been no increase in the hectareage during the years 1986-87 to 1993-94. However, in view of the opium stock position having depleted to a record low the area under poppy cultivation had to be increased in the year 1994-95 onward as below in order to meet the export commitments and the domestic requirement of opium.

Year	Area licensed
1993-94	13489.00
1994-95	25215.00
1995-96	26437.00
1996-97	29798.00

(c) No, Sir. The area under poppy cultivation during any crop year is fixed taking into account the global demand for opium. The International Narcotics Control Board, as the concerned U.N. Agency monitors the global demand and supply of opiates and has always emphasized, India's important role as the sole producer & supplier of licit opium.

(d) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

Import of R.O.B.

5043. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4430 on December 20, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard and the time by which the information is likely to be laid on the table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The requisite informations are being collected from field formations and is likely to be laid on the table of the House before the end of the current Session of Parliament.