

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether 1700 workers remained without work for over half a decade in the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, Haldia, DAP unit;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated loss suffered in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken against the officials responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has not rejected the proposal to set up a DAP plant at Haldia.

(c) and (d) Commissioning activities of Haldia project of HFC (there is no DAP unit of HFC at Haldia) had to be stopped from October, 1986 due to frequent equipment breakdowns. Certain facilities such as ammonia storage, water services etc. are under operation apart from normal preservation and maintenance. For this, a part of the workforce is being utilised.

(e) About Rs. 18.25 crores is being incurred annually as standing charges for salary of staff and maintenance and preservation of the plant.

(f) Since the problems of Haldia plant are due to factors beyond the control of any individual or group of individuals, no official can be held responsible for the same.

Drinking Water Supply Schemes of Rajasthan

3793. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any drinking water supply schemes submitted by the Rajasthan Government are pending for clearance since long; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAM-BHAI H. PATEL): (a) and (b) The present status of various drinking water supply schemes received from the State Govt. of Rajasthan is as under:—

<i>Sl. Project Proposal No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Present Status</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
(1)	(2)	(4)
1 Project for drinking water supply for urban and rural areas in Nagaur district at an estimated cost of Rs. 107.0 crores.	25-3-91	The rural component of the project is under technical scrutiny.
2 Drinking Water Supply project through 12 regional water supply schemes covering 56 villages in Dholpur district at an estimated cost of Rs. 331.82 lakhs.	30-6-91	The project was forwarded to Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Economic Affairs) for posing to Swedish Embassy for bilateral assistance.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
3. Drinking water supply project for two towns and 18 villages for Ramganj Mandi & Suket area in Kota district at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.34 crores.	30-6-91	The project has been forwarded by the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Economic Affairs) to Swedish Embassy on 31st July, 1991 for bilateral assistance.	
4. Water supply arrangement for cattle at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.63 lakhs.	5-7-91	The scheme is under technical scrutiny.	
5. Project proposal for rural water supply in fluoride affected villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 688.20 crores.	16-7-91	The project is under technical scrutiny.	
6. Augmentation of water supply schemes in Rambhisar Surjada Tehsil Kalayet in Bikaner district at an estimated cost of Rs. 23.56 lakhs.	24-7-91	The scheme is under scrutiny from technical angle.	
7. Augmentation of water supply in 4 border districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Jodhpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 93.74 crores.	3-8-91	The project is under scrutiny from technical angle.	

Rise in price of Basmati Rice

3794. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of Basmati Rice has risen tremendously; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps taken to curtail the prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUP-

PLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) A statement showing the month end wholesale and retail prices of Basmati Rice at selected Centres from August '90 to July '91 is attached.

(b) The Basmati Rice is generally consumed by the affluent classes and is also an export item. The Basmati Rice is not collected for the central pool. As such the prices of Basmati Rice are neither monitored by the Ministry of Food nor any corrective action in this respect is taken.