

Under public distribution system in Andhra Pradesh.

**Water Balance Study In Kuttanad, Kerala**

4725. SHRI T. J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to undertake water balance study in Kuttanad, Kerala with the assistance of Dutch Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the assistance proposed to be given by Dutch Government; and

(d) the time by which this project is proposed to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIMUL-LAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). The water balance study in Kuttanad, Kerala with the assistance of Dutch Government was launched in January, 1987 and completed in December, 1989. The details of study covered include-

(i) Long term impact on water quality, hydrology and lake characteristics with particular reference to operation of Thanneermukkom regulator,

(ii) prediction of future trends of water quality and possible environmental impacts and

(iii) planning of corrective measures that need to be taken to preserve the quality of water. Financial support of about Dfl 5.97 million (equivalent to Rs. 23 million) was provided from Dutch Government in this regard.

**Attack on Indian Shopkeepers In U.K.**

4726. SHRI R. DHANUSHODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of recent reports that Indian shopkeepers were attacked and their shops looted in some cities of the U.K.;

(b) if so, the details of loss of lives and the damage caused to property; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). The Government is aware that some shops belonging to British nationals of Indian origin were looted in Handsworth in Birmingham on 2nd September'91. There was no loss of lives. The damages and liss were estimated to be over half a million pounds. Some other Asian and British shopkeepers had also suffered damages in the attacks by holligans.

(c) The Indian High Commission in UK has conveyed to the British authorities at appropriate levels our concern at such attacks and the need for prompt police action.

**Fire in second mine of NLC**

4727. DR. R.K.G. RAJULU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any incident of fire occurred in the second mine of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and actual loss due to this fire;

(c) whether any inquiry had been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such fire in future; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken for proper check on procurement and supplies to ensure smooth functioning of the Corporation and avoid losses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. On 23-07-1991, there was a fire accident at Reclaimer Machine II in Mine II of Neyveli Lignite corporation. The Machine was under stoppage for planned repair work in hydraulic cylinder for hoisting and lowering of bucket wheel boom. The fire occurred in the belt below the Reclaimer. This has resulted in a loss of about Rs. 1.5 lakhs, mainly on electrical cables and equipments.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. An enquiry has been conducted in this regard by a Committee comprising of Chief Engineers of the concerned zones of Mine II. The findings of the Committee are to the following effects:-

As the Reclaimer machine was under stoppage for planned repair works, a lot of welding work was going on that particular day. The hot metal from the welding works had fallen on the lignite dust accumulations at the bottom and caused smouldering. Fire got aggravated by heavy winds and flared up into an open fire which was subsequently put out. The Committee also suggested measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(e) and (f). Following steps have been taken in this regard:

1) All the fire fighting devices such as water spray, fire extinguisher etc. are being kept in ready condition.

2) Sand and other fire fighting equipments have been provided in the machine.

3) Measures have been taken to adopt additional precaution where welding is to be done by checking the area thoroughly and spraying profusely with water after the work is over.

4) A system has been evolved to clear the fine lignite dusts in cable ducts and the cavities in structures either by water spray or by wind blowing to prevent accumulation of dust.

### Development of Water Resources

4728. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether priority is given to development of water resources in order to provide sufficient water for development of Forests as well as for population located in remote areas;

(b) whether the gravity system has been explored for supply of water on the slopes

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether bunds/dams are constructed for dual purpose of stopping water as well as conserving soil?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIVIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The National Water Policy adopted in September, 1987, recommends that National Resource Development Project should, as far as possible, be planned and developed as multipurpose projects. Provision for drinking water should be a primary consideration. The Projects are also required to meet the water requirement for various other purposes, which would include forest development also.

(b) Most of surface irrigation system