

(c) Two Bills to establish and incorporate these Universities have already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on August 24, 1995.

[Translation]

Safety Equipments in Coal Mines of Bihar

475. SHRI RADHAMOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether safety equipments are installed in all coal mines of Bihar to help the workers at the time of any accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of coal mines where safety equipments have not been installed, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Safety equipment such as main mechanical ventilator, winders in shafts fitted with protective devices, flame proof/intrinsically safe electricals etc., as required under the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 have been installed in all the working coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) in Bihar.

(c) Does not arise.

Permanent Membership of UN Security Council

476 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India had made efforts at different levels to get a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome therefrom; and

(c) the future role of India in regard to the expansion of UN Security Council's permanent membership being a major non-aligned country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). India had expressed her willingness to serve as a permanent member of the UN Security Council in the 49th Session of UN General Assembly in 1994. This was reiterated in the 50th Session of UN General Assembly in 1995. Sustained efforts to promote India's candidature have been made bilaterally and in multilateral meetings. These efforts continue. However, there is

as yet no consensus at the UN on the expansion of the Security Council.

(c) The Non-Aligned Movement Summit held at Cartagena, Colombia in October 1995 adopted a declaration that the Non-Aligned countries should work towards increasing the representation of developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean in the Security Council. India has also adopted this approach in the discussions in the Open Ended Working Group of the UN General Assembly on the "Question of Equitable Representation on and increase in the Membership of Security Council".

Pending Irrigation Schemes

477. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI VEERENDRA KUMAR SINGH :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of irrigation projects/schemes in the country are pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite clearance of these pending irrigation projects/schemes; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared particularly in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A *Statement* giving State-wise details of new Major and Medium Irrigation Projects pending clearance is enclosed.

(c) The Central Water Commission is holding quarterly review meetings with State Government Officials for early clearance of projects. It has also set up Field Units at different places in the country for assisting the States in expeditious appraisal of the projects.

(d) Though there is prescribed limit for appraisal of the projects, the clearance is delayed due to the delay by the State Governments in complying with the observations of various Central Appraising Agencies.