

policy and prior clearance of the Government. Accordingly, the Government of India have approved cases in the electronics sector.

(c) No such representation has been received by the Government.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Small Hydro Power Projects

3134. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage-wise details of formalities required for approval of the small hydel power projects;

(b) the time taken in completing these formalities;

(c) the time taken in final completion of a small hydel power project;

(d) the number of small hydel power projects launched during 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

(e) the project-wise dates on which these projects were completed or are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Approval of small hydro power projects is the mandate of State Governments. Among the major formalities required for approval of the small hydro power projects are, approval of Detailed Project Report, clearance as per the provisions of Electricity Supply Act, environment and forest clearance, irrigation clearance, etc. There can be some variation from State to State.

(b) The time required to complete these formalities can vary from case to case.

(c) The time period to complete a small hydro project depends on its capacity, location and other parameters and is expected to be from 2 to 4 years.

(d) and (e) The Small hydro power projects are taken up in the States by Government Agencies/State Electricity Boards/Private Sector/Non-Governmental Organisations/other Agencies. Ministry of non-conventional Energy Sources do not directly take up the implementation of the small hydro power projects. No new project with

Ministry's support was started in 1996-97 and 1997-98 under the Ministry's subsidy scheme. However, under the United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility-hilly hydro project, Ministry has sanctioned 25 demonstration projects. These projects are expected to take at least 2 years for their completion.

[English]

Ghataprabha Irrigation Project

3135. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds sanctioned and released by the Union Government for Ghataprabha Irrigation Project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme to Karnataka during 1997-98;

(b) whether the funds released so far for the project have been fully utilised;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) An amount of Rs. 30 crores was sanctioned to Ghataprabha irrigation Project as Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1997-98 against which an amount of Rs. 15 crores (50%) was released as 1st instalment in advance.

(b) and (c) The Government of Karnataka incurred an expenditure of Rs. 21.65 crores only during 1997-98 on this project which is less by Rs. 8.35 crores than double the CLA released (i.e. Rs. 30 crores) as per AIBP criteria.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Ill Treatment to Sikh Pilgrims

3136. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the ill-treatment meted out to the Sikh pilgrims who visited Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sent a letter of protest to the Government of Pakistan; and