

(e) the time by which the construction work of the above canals is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Central assistance to States is provided in the form of block loan/grant and is not tied to any project or sector of development.

(c) The construction work of both the canals is in the initial stages.

(d) and (e) Irrigation projects are executed by the State Governments as per their own priority.

[English]

Upper Krishna Project

1170. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance from the World Bank has been received by the Government for the execution of Upper Krishna Project in Karnataka;

(b) If so, whether some irregularities and misappropriation of funds in the execution of work of the project has come to the notice of the Government;

(c) whether a team of M.Ps. has submitted a Memorandum to the Government for a CBI inquiry into the matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Upper Krishna Phase-II Project was implemented from 16.06.89 to 30.06.97 with World Bank assistance (US \$ 45 Million as loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and US \$ 160 million credit from International Development Agency).

(b) Government of Karnataka have received complaint regarding irregularities.

(c) A team of Member of Parliament visited Upper Krishna Project in April, 1998 to see the progress of project, however no memorandum was submitted.

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

[Translation]

Sardar Sarover Project

1171. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cracks have developed in Sardar Sarover dam recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

1172. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G8 countries had urged India to sign Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT);

(b) if so, the reaction of Indian Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the eventualities if the individual countries impose sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir. In a statement issued during their recent summit meeting (17th May, 1998), leaders of the G-8 Countries, *inter alia* called on India "to rejoin the mainstream of international opinion (and) to adhere unconditionally to the NPT and CTBT".

(b) Government have declared that India would be willing to consider being an adherent to some of the undertakings of the CTBT. However, Government have also stated that these decisions cannot be taken in a vacuum but would depend upon reciprocal responses.

(c) Government has conveyed its disappointment to the countries which have imposed sanctions, as it reflects an inadequate appreciation of India's legitimate security concerns. The implications of the sanctions by individual countries are being assessed. Government will take all necessary steps to safeguard our economic and other interests in the context of these measures.

Funds for Backward Areas

1173. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to provide sufficient funds to meet the finances in developing backward areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the amount provided so far?