

(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?

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) and (b) Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for that purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Planning Commission allocates Central Assistance for State Plans as a whole and spatial and sectoral allocations are made by the State Government. However, Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh in overcoming the problems of development of backward areas through various area programmes viz. Tribal Sub-Plan, Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme etc.

### **Mango Production**

1174. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a drastic failure of the Mango crop this year in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the failure of the Mango crop; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the output of Mango crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) There has been less production of mango crop in parts of Andhra Pradesh. The low production is attributed mainly to the adverse weather conditions like extended rainy season, fluctuating temperature resulting in reduced flowering and subsequently failure of pollination and pollen germination added with pest and disease attacks.

(c) The State Government have taken a number of steps to improve crop production. These steps include organising training programmes to the orchardists in adopting integrated pest management, plant protection measure, ensure optimum supply of inputs like insecticides and pesticides.

### **Scheme for Andhra Pradesh**

1175. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent some schemes to the Planning Commission for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their locations; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved?

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) to (c) Planning Commission have no schemes pending for approval.

[Translation]

### **Nuclear Tests**

1176. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which have expressed their desire to cooperate with our country out of those which had stopped cooperating with our country after the nuclear test conducted by India at Pokhran in Rajasthan on May 18, 1974;

(b) whether the nuclear power countries had refused to give nuclear technique to India to generate power during the last few years;

(c) the reasons for this refusal and whether the Government are reconsidering its nuclear policy keeping it in view; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) A number of countries which stopped co-operation after the nuclear test conducted by India at Pokhran on May 18, 1974 have expressed varying degrees of interest in resuming co-operation with our country.

(b) to (d) In the last few years, countries with capabilities in nuclear power generation have expressed their inability to provide inputs of technology, materials and equipment in the light of their being a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or their membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). Russia has, however, continued its interest in setting up a 2000 megawatt nuclear power station as this related to a commitment entered into with India in 1988, prior to its membership of the NSG. Government is taking all necessary steps keeping in mind the national development needs and national security perspectives.

### **Construction of Bridges over Canals**

1177. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether bridges constructed in Uttar Pradesh over different canals have been damaged;

(b) if so, whether the irrigation department is not repairing these bridges;