

**Cotton Technology Mission**

1217. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to contribute 25% of the total outlay for the proposed Cotton Technology Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government is likely to be benefited by 25% contribution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) The proposal to set up Technology Mission on Cotton has not yet been finalised.

**Desilting of Tungabhadra Reservoir**

1218. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that there is tremendous fall in water storage capacity of Tungabhadra reservoir due to huge accumulation of silt in it;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka have sent any proposal demanding funds from the Union Government for quick desilting of reservoir; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) about 21.5 thousand million cubic feet out of 133 thousand million cubic feet of gross storage capacity has been lost during 1953 to 1993. The situation is due to top soil erosion of the catchment area.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Nuclear Tests**

1219. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nuclear test conducted recently would adversely affect the economic and political situation of the country ; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Government constantly monitor all developments having and bearing on national security and national development and due measures are taken to protect national interest.

[English]

**Modernisation of Kurnool Cuddapah Canal**

1220. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given clearance to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to take up modernisation work of Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Japan is the funding agency of this project, and

(d) the total assistance provided by the Union Government for this project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Kurnool - Cuddapah Canal Modernisation Project is being implemented with the objective of stabilisation of existing ayacut of 1.064 Lakh ha. in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts by rehabilitation, improvement and modernisation of existing age old irrigation system.

(c) Yes, Sir. Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan is assisting this project with a loan assistance of 16049 million Yen (Approximately Rs. 555.33 crore)

(d) No central assistance has been provided by the Union Government. However, external assistance is released to the State Government in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) by the Government of India which is the case for this project as well.

**Disposal of Claims**

1221. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian who fled Kuwait during Iraq occupation;