

brated in Ujjain after every 12 years. For this purpose also adequate flow of water is required in river Shipra. So I request the Central Government to give top priority for setting up a body for resolving drinking water problem in Ujjain district and direct the Madhya Pradesh Government to implement the Narmada-Shipra Link project at the earliest.

**(vii) Need to provide Control Assistance for early completion of the Teesta Barrage Project**

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): The river Teesta is dependable source of water for agricultural development of the backward districts namely, Cooch-Bihar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, West Dinajpur and Malda in West Bengal.

The Teesta Barrage project envisages irrigation to an area of 7.5 lakh acres during Kharif season and 4 lakh acres during Rabi. If Geokhali Dam in upper catchment is completed, another 3 lakh acres of land would be irrigated.

When the project would be completed, 62 lakh metric tons more foodgrains will be produced in the five districts of North Bengal. Realising the special importance of this Project, the working group of the Planning Commission had recommended an allocation of Rs. 221 crores in the 7th Plan.

It is reported that Bangladesh is going ahead with their Teesta Irrigation Project with international aid. But due to financial constraint, the progress of work on our Teesta Project is very slow. Government of West Bengal with their financial limitations, have spent so far more than Rs. 280 crores and is spending about 75 per cent money for the project out of their total irrigation budget. On the other hand, the special assistance so far from the Central Government amounts to Rs. 5 crores only. Of course, the Central Government had given Rs. 15 crores as loan for this project.

I would request the Central government to take necessary steps and provide adequate assistance for the early completion of the Teesta Barrage project.

**(viii) Need to revamp the Sindri Fertilizer Plant in Bihar**

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): The Sindri unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India is the first public sector enterprise in the country, established in 1951 and inaugurated by the then Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Lal Nehru as the new temple of India. It is now facing closure. The industrial complex of Sindri unit consists of a fertilizer plant, power plant, a research-cum-design institute, training centre and a good township with hospital and enough land connected with railway lines, i.e. all the rare infrastructure required for development. But all these are lying neglected for the last decade. The original coalbased plant has been sold and improperly substituted by a heavy oil-based plant, whose life is also shortly to end with all good production performance. The proposals to instal 900-tonne per day naphtha-based fertilizer plant, one methanol plant expansion and renovation of the power plant have been kept in cold storage; even the cokeovens have remained half-built. An atmosphere of despair prevails in the area, spelling omen for the future of public sector in the country. Revamping the Sindri industrial complex with a new coal-based fertilizer plant and a power plant is absolutely called for, to save this industrial complex from ruin.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir: I would like to make a submission to you and, through you, to the House about the Constitution (Amendment) Bill which my colleague Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan would move for consideration.