

[Shri Kedar Pandey]

as full requirements of the Calcutta Port. The Commission, according to the task assigned under the November 1977 Agreement, has to complete the studies and recommend a scheme which is feasible and economical within a period of three years. As the Members are aware, the Indian scheme for augmenting the dry seasons flows of the Ganga envisages construction of a Brahmaputra Ganga link canal supplemented by storages on the Dihang, Subansiri and Barak rivers. The Bangladesh scheme envisages storages in India as well as in Nepal on the Ganga system. Although only four months remain before the three year period would elapse, the Commission has not been able to commence its studies. This is because Bangladesh has been insisting on first making Nepal a member of the Joint Rivers Commission or of the study team to study the Bangladesh proposal which India has been unable to accept in terms of the November 1977 Agreement. Indian side had been requesting Bangladesh side to commence the studies. The question of association of Nepal has been under discussion in the Commission since 1978. The differences, however, persisted on this question as well as on the question of commencing study of the two schemes. The entire question of referring to the two Governments the issues on which the differences over the augmentation studies have persisted within the Joint Rivers Commission was discussed in the 18th and 19th meetings of the Commission. Although the minutes of the meetings were not finalised, a consensus emerged that while this matter would continue to be discussed in the Joint Rivers Commission for expeditious settlement it may also be discussed at other levels to arrive at an early solution in a spirit of understanding and good neighbourliness. The Commission decided to redouble its efforts for resolving the differences and going ahead with the studies so far as

the augmentation of the Ganga flows is concerned. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held by the end of August, 1980. India also proposes to discuss the matter at Government level outside the JRC.

The Commission also decided to expedite the work of the committee set up to make recommendations on the sharing of Tista waters.

13.48 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) RESEARCH PROJECT ON MONKEYS
IN RAJASTHAN

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur).
Sir, recently there was a lot of commotion in Rajasthan over the incident where some American scientists defied the prohibitory order and entered the prohibited area in Ranthombhor. The American scientists were engaged in a project of research on monkeys which was being done in collaboration with the Jodhpur University. Subsequently the State Government have stopped this project. However, according to the reports appearing in the language newspaper of Rajasthan, an American scientist Mr. Daniel Bruce Hardy is scheduled to arrive in Rajasthan shortly to pursue research on monkeys. Since the earlier incident has already caused some tension amongst the local people of Rajasthan. The Minister for Education may kindly inform the House under whose permission the American scientist is arriving and also whether the Central Government's permission is required before the state Government permits a foreign scientist to undertake research project in the State and whether the earlier project which has since been stopped by the State Government was with the approval of the Central Government or not. In any case, the Central Government may kindly ensure that research on monkeys, if renewed, does not create any public tension in Rajasthan.