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Desiltation of Chilka Lake

*383. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the large scale silting of Chilka Lake in Orissa;
- (b) whether Government of Orissa had submitted a proposal to the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests for desiltation of Chilka lake:
- (c) if so, the cost estimated for the desiltation of that lake; and
- (d) the amount to be given by the Union Government for implementing that programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOR-ESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMEN-TATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

- (c) Rs. 12.60 crores over a period of five years including maintenance.
- (d) The amount required was too large to be accommodated within the limited provision of the wetland scheme. The Government of Orissa was informed accordingly.

Manning Economic Departments by IES and ISS Officers

*384. SHRI M.G. SEKHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether economic and other related questions are decided by Government departments usually manned by IAS officers;
 and
 - (b) if so, the reasons for not manning

these Departments by officers from IES/IS Services?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-WANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Posts in all Central Government Departments/Ministries including those dealing with economic and other related subjects are manned by officers drawn from organised Group 'A' Services. All India Services and from amongst professionals, Scientists and technologists. The appointments to various posts are made keeping in view the suitability, background and experience of the officers and the requirements of the posts. Officers belonging to the IES/ISS are also considered for appointment to the posts wherever they fulfil the aforesaid criteria.

Priorities of Ongoing Projects

*385. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to redefine the priorities for completing various central ongoing projects;
- (b) if so, the-reasons for redefining the priorities;
- (c) whether the Planning Commission is drawing a list of projects and programmes for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the projects and programmes likely to be affected by re-defining of priorities?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-WANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). It is the practice at the time of the formulation of each Five Year Plan, that all Central ongoing projects, programmes and schemes are reviewed keeping in perspective the relative priority given to each sector of the economy, in the approach conceived for the next Five Year Plan. This process is on as