

reported to the police authorities for taking removal action.

Renovation of the Sone Canal

4455 SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government propose to renovate the Sone Canal Project, and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA) (a) and (b) State Government's proposal for renovation of existing low level Sone Canal System estimated to cost Rs. 1194.72 crores envisaging irrigation to 9.06 lakh hectares was considered by the Advisory Committee in 1984 and in accordance with its directions, a Sone Modernisation Project Phase-I estimated to cost Rs. 247 crores to be taken up as a pilot project, to benefit 30,000 hectares has been sent to the Planning Commission for investment clearance

[English]

Price of Sugar

4456 SHRIMATI USHA SINHA Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) the cost of production and the selling price of sugar at present and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to bring down the price of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) and (b) Under the present policy of

partial control, the ratio of levy: sale sugar is 45:55 for the season 1989-90. The zonewise cost of production of sugar for levy purposes is calculated on the basis of minimum cane price notified and the parameters of conversion cost and return recommended by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices in their report of July, 1987. However, in actual practice, the factories are required to pay much higher cane price on the advice of the respective State Government, than the minimum notified price announced by the Central Government. In view of this, the cost of production of sugar varies from region to region.

The levy sugar is distributed through Public Distribution System at a uniform retail price throughout the country which is presently Rs. 5.25 per kg. The retail prices of freesale sugar for S-30 grade in principal markets of the country in the plains during March, 1990, however, have been in the range of Rs. 8.10-9.00 per kg. These prices for freesale sugar are lower than prices prevailing during September to November, 1989.

The Government have released 39 lakh tonnes of free-sale sugar (including imported sugar) from October, 1989 to April, 1990 as against 34.90 lakh tonnes in the corresponding period last year to keep the prices under check.

[Translation]

Kanhar River Scheme in Bihar

4457. SHRI JORAWAR RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Kanhar river Scheme in Palaman district of Bihar is pending with Union Government;

(b) the time by which it is proposed to be