

(c) if not, whether Government propose to sanction any project for that district during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI A. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) . A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Irrigation Plans for Mirzapur District-Approved by the Planning Commission during the 5th and 6th Plan period.

Name of the Project	Estimated cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Irrigation potential (Hectares)
1. Balan Bakhar Diversion	197.00	5706
2. Bakhar Marihan Feeder	94.72	2068
3. Dhoba Pump Canal	75.00	4050
4. Dhenkwah Dam	89 00	1310

Resuscitation of Rupnarayan River in West Bengal

*235. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the river Rupnarayan in West Bengal is fast deteriorating and the predominantly peasant population of the Ghatal and Tamluk sub-divisions of Midnapur district, West Bengal, are greatly suffering due to this ; and

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of including any project for resuscitation of Rupnarayan River in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The river Rupnarayan in West Bengal is getting silted in certain reaches resulting in drainage congestion.

(b) The State Government has proposed Phase-I of dredging of Rupnarayan river in the State's Seventh Five Year Plan.

Contract Awarded to Sweden for Vindhya-chal Unit

*236. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of

IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Thermal Power Corporation has given a contract to Sweden for commissioning a Vindhya-chal Unit ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation Limited has signed a contract with M/s ASEA, Sweden for the supply and erection of a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) back-to-back link between the Northern and Western Regions, to be established at Vindhya-chal.

(b) This HVDC back-to-back link is being established to facilitate transfer of power from one region to the other which may be operating at different frequencies.

Declaration of State Roads as National Highways

*237 SHRI C. D. GAMIT :

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :