

(b) if so, the names of the States where geothermal resources are available ;

(c) whether the geothermal resources available in Madhya Pradesh have been properly tapped; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to exploit the hot water available at Tattapani in Sarguja district and also found at other places ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir. Collection of data and its updating is a continuous process.

(b) Hot springs have been found in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana.

(c) Investigations are in progress to assess the geothermal potential in promising areas of Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Geological, Geochemical, Geophysical studies have been carried out and exploratory drilling is in progress at Tattapani in Sarguja District in Madhya Pradesh. The feasibility of utilising hot water is being studied.

Proposal to establish School Grants Commission

*446. SHRI K. RAMA CHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conference of Southern State Education Ministers held in Hyderabad in the first week of July, 1985 recommended to the Union Government for establishment of a School Grants Commission ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Silting in Kosi barrage

*447. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kosi barrage and Kosi Project as a whole are in danger of being damaged and destroyed on account of heavy silting ;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take ;

(c) whether there is any permanent solution for the problem of silting ; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to protect the two embankments of Kosi River ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Though there has not been any damage to the main barrage, excessive silting both upstream and downstream has created some problem on the downstream side for which protective measures are being taken.

(c) Construction of dams in the upper reaches of the Kosi catchment along with soil conservation measures will help in reducing the siltation.

(d) Protective measures in the form of bank revetment and river training works, etc. to protect the Kosi embankments are being taken by the State Government.

Korapuzha Irrigation Project

*448. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Korapuzha Irrigation Project in Wynad District, Kerala was started with an estimated amount of Rs. 760 lakhs in 1977 with a time bound pro-

gramme to produce an additional 16,000 tons of rice in Wynad District within five years ; and

(b) if so, the present stage of the project and the year in which the project can be commissioned to its full capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The Karapuzha Irrigation Project envisaging two crops of paddy on 4650 hectares was taken up by Kerala Government for implementation during the V Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 760 lakhs. The project works are in progress and the State Government expects to commission it by the end of the VII Plan.

Bargi Dam Project

*449. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan given by the World Bank for Bargi Dam Project of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) whether this loan has been pooled in Central Funds ;

(c) whether Government are aware of delay and increase in estimated expenditure due to non-availability of funds for this Project ; and

(d) if so, what financial provisions have been made in the Seventh Five Year Plan for this Project ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Bargi Dam Project of Madhya Pradesh has not been posed to the World Bank for assistance.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Government is aware.

(d) Tentative agreed plan allocations of Rs. 62.69 crores in the 7th Plan for this

project. The final allocation is yet to be confirmed.

Proposals from abroad for improving tourism, cultural activities and trade

4280. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals received from various countries during the last three years for improving tourism, cultural activities and trade with India ; and

(b) names of the countries and Government's reaction to each of the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Steps to check sales tax evasion in Delhi

4281. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sales Tax authorities had submitted to Delhi Administration proposals to impose tax at the first point of sale and to set up nine check-posts on the border to prevent large-scale evasion of tax ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and when it was submitted ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). In July, 1984 the Sales Tax Authorities