

Atomic Energy has since been considered by Government ; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) The report of the Site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy for setting up of Nuclear Power Stations is under consideration of Government.

Water from Ganga Utilised for Irrigation

*180. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the total quantity of water presently taken out of Ganga river system for irrigation, State-wise season-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : The mean annual withdrawals from major irrigation canals in the Ganga basin, estimated from the data obtained from the States is 6.2 million hectares metre approximately. The figures of total quantity of water presently taken out of Ganga river system for irrigation are not reported by the States.

Adjudication of Cauvery Water Dispute by Tribunal

*181. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to refer the Cauvery water dispute to a tribunal for adjudication ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the time by which the dispute is likely to be solved ; and

(d) at what stage the settlement of the dispute lies at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The matter is under discussion with the State Governments concerned.

Drought Proof Scheme by Planning Commission

*182. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-
NAIK :

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has formulated a drought proof scheme ?

(b) if so, the details of the scheme, its objectives and the financial arrangements envisaged ; and

(c) the likely time of its implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) Successive Plans have laid stress on schemes/programmes which, amongst other things, also aim at reducing the incidence and severity of drought. Schemes/programmes like Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), National Watershed Development Programme/Dry-Land Agriculture, Soil Conservation Programmes, Extension of Irrigation Facilities, Water Supply Projects in Rural and Urban Areas, etc., have thus been an integral part of the successive Plans and have been continued in the Seventh Plan also.

This year, some additional steps have been taken to utilise relief assistance for drought-proofing activities. Planning Commission have identified certain on-going irrigation projects in drought-affected areas in 14 States with a view to expedite their completion within a period of two years at an overall cost of Rs. 236 crores.

Similarly, in order to overcome the recurrent acute water scarcity situation in certain urban centres, additional assistance has been provided under the Drought Relief. States have also been requested to propose schemes, for completing within the current years, relating to National Watershed Development/Dry-Land Agriculture and assistance to small and marginal farmers on a sharing basis.

Marine Archaeology Programme of National Institute of Oceanography

*183. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have listed shipwreck sites in and around the country ;

(b) whether it is considered necessary for underwater exploration to reconstruct the role played by the country as a maritime power in Indian ocean trade in the past ;

(c) if so, the number of shipwreck zones that have been identified in the country ; and

(d) the details of the programme of the Marine Archaeology unit of the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. But a new dimension of Marine Archaeology is proposed to be added to the current ongoing Oceanographic activities in the country. 17 shipwreck zones with approximately 210 shipwreck sites have been identified in and around the country. Preliminary survey in Goa and Tranquebar of Tamil Nadu coasts has revealed one shipwreck each.

(d) Systematic coastal survey is to be undertaken and wrecks are to be explored.

The project is to be continued under the grants-in-aid from Department of Science and Technology ; Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (NIO) providing logistic support to it. Current phase of the project has been agreed upto March, 1989.

[Translation]

Scheme of Bihar Government to Check Land Erosion and Floods by Datha River

*185. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar Government have sent a scheme to Union Government to check land erosion and floods caused by the river Datha ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the scheme will be cleared and the reasons for delay in clearing the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Erosion in Border Districts of West Bengal

*186. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Central scheme has been formulated to check erosion in the border districts of West Bengal which had led to the loss of thousands of acres of land ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.