

**SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:** Sir, it is unfortunate that the project was submitted about four-five years back and till this day, they are simply examining it. They have not come to any conclusion whether it is within the Award or outside the Award. He is not in a position to say that. My second supplementary is whether the allocation of water under the Bachawat Award is permanent or it is an unutilised allocation of water to a particular State up to 2000 A.D. Will it remain permanent or it will go to the surplus?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** Now, this a question for which the entire award will be reviewed. The decision of the Award will be reviewed by the year 2000 A.D. The hon. Member wants to say that the surplus water is not available to the people of that area. I do not think I will be able to say anything about that.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Amendments in FERA

\*128. **SHRI H.N.NANJE GOWDA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to tighten the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the FERA violators will get suitable reward or punishment?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :** (a) to (c). Government of India have received suggestions for amending the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 and these are being examined.

### Voting Age

\*129. **SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:**  
**SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-**  
**NAIK:**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering actively to reduce the voting age from 21 to 18;

(b) if so, when the law would be amended to give effect to it; and

(c) the number of additional voters on account of this reduction in voting age?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES: (SHRI B.SHANKARANAND) :**

(a) and (b). The proposal to reduce the voting age is now being debated extensively. Government have taken note of this; but no decision has been taken so far.

(c) The number of additional voters as a result of the reduction in voting age has been estimated by the Election Commission to be about 47 million.

### Corporate Plan

\*130. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any corporate/comprehensive plan for the construction of new railway lines/conversion from narrow gauge/metre gauge to broad gauge upto the year 2000 A.D has been finalised by Government keeping in view the urgency to complete the ongoing projects, in each zone;

(b) if so, a brief outline of the corporate plan and its break-up for Eighth and Ninth