

give him a copy of these Rules. Then the confusion will be cleared.

SHRI T. BASHEER: The hon. Minister may be knowing that a majority of Indians who are working in Gulf countries are from my home State, Kerala. They are poor and illiterate people. When they come to this country after three or four years, they are harassed by the customs authorities in the airport. As Members of Parliament from Kerala, we are receiving a lot of complaints. I can give specific instances also to the Minister. I would like to know whether or not the Minister has received any complaint regarding unnecessary harassment by the customs authorities. If so, what steps are you going to take to stop this practice of harassment by the customs authorities?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: I have not received any complaint regarding the harassment of Indian workers who are coming over to India, by the customs officials. I meet the hon. Member almost everyday. If he has got any specific complaint, he can please hand it over to me and I will try to see whether there is any justification in those allegations. I want to make one thing clear about the workers. The Indians working abroad for one year or more and returning to India on termination of such work can import free of duty personal effects and household articles which have been used for a minimum period of six months by the passenger or his family up to the total value of Rs. 20000/-. This is under Rule 4 (A) (1). There are also some other provisions. There is also computation of period of stay for facility of workers going abroad and if their services are terminated. In the matter of computation of period, we have made certain laxity so that they are not in difficulty. I do not want to take time of the House in giving details, but if the hon. Member is interested, I can hand over these to him.

Kolar Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh

*375. SHRI PRATAP BHANU

SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Kolar Irrigation Project in Sihore, Madhya Pradesh is much behind the schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the actual progress made and the expenditure incurred thereon, till-date; and

(d) the revised schedule for completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The project has not been cleared by the Centre. The State Government is reported to have incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 90 crores upto March, 1989 against the reported latest estimated cost of Rs. 120 crores.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per my information, Kolar Irrigation Project was cleared as one of the World Bank projects and it was scheduled to be commissioned by 1990. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the state administration and the Ministry of Agriculture have been working to commission this World Bank project within the time schedule as laid down for it and whether the required funds are being provided for this project from the Central Government and the World Bank?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: This project was one of the 16 projects in a cluster for the World Bank Assistance, as I understand. The target fixed by the World Bank was also

there. Actually the projects were included in the time slice of 4/81 to 3/86. The project was not completed in time and the World Bank extended the credit closing date to 31.3.1987. It was again extended because of the non-completion of the project up to 31st March, 1988. The World Bank has since then closed the credit of medium irrigation project in March, 1988. The total disbursement at the close of credit is SDR 106.621 Million under IDA and SDR 21.90 million under IFAD.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kolar Irrigation Project is the most important of all projects in Budhni—Narsolaganj area of my constituency. As per the previous schedule it was to be completed by the year 1986 but later it was further extended to the year 1990. Out of the total amount of allocation of Rs. 120 crores, till today about Rs. 90 crores have already been spent on this project. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the percentage of the work of construction of dam and canals completed so far and whether both these works are in progress side by side or there is any inconsistency or obstacle which is causing delay. The hon. Minister may kindly tell whether its completion is delayed due to certain obstacles in its implementation or due to some financial problem or some other factors underlying it?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: First of all, I have mentioned in my earlier reply that this is a project not cleared by the Central Water Commission. However, we are keeping in close touch with the project and its progress because we are interested in its progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Can we go ahead with a project without clearance of Central Water Commission?

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: In the first instance, it is only CWC which gives its clearance on the project whether it is a small or a medium project, whereas the project in question is a major one. Without the technical approval of CWC, neither a medium nor a small project can be cleared whereas this project is a major one involving a total cost of Rs. 120 crores, I am rather surprised to note it.

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I will answer that point. I was only telling the background. This was a IVth Plan project. It was cleared by the CWC in 1979. Then the State Government modified the very same plan and the scheme and submitted a revised scheme in 1983 for a higher amount of about Rs. 70 crores. Again, the cost escalated and today it is estimated to be Rs. 120 crores.

Sir, the other part of his question is about the progress of the work. The Nalla closure of the dam was taken up in October 1987 and 93 per cent work has been completed. Entire earthwork in the left flank has been completed whereas, about 90 per cent work has been done in the right flank.

About 90 per cent work has been completed so far. Out of total 9 barrage gates, 8 gates have been delivered at site and installation of 5 No. gates have also been completed.

Now, Sir, in the main canal, the problem comes in at the feeder stage. The execution of distribution network has not been taken up so far. It is the execution stage of the feeder channel which has to be completed. The other problems faced are about the rehabilitation of some people and also about the acquisition of land. These are various aspects about which we were informed.