

diversification of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited.

Siddeshwari Irrigation Project

*37. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to expedite the implementation of the Siddeshwari Irrigation Project which aimed to irrigate 55,000 acres in Birhum District?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANKAY): The Siddeshwari Irrigation Project is reported to be still under investigation by the Government of West Bengal and has not been received so far in the Central Water Commission for obtaining the clearance of the Planning Commission.

Increase in Oil Prices

*38. SHRI R. K. MHALGI:

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to meet the recent increase in

the oil prices by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries;

(b) if so, what has been the actual increase in the prices of each item of Petroleum and petroleum products since January, 1980;

(c) whether the imports of oil have been reduced due to increase in prices; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have since increased the prices of petroleum products with effect from 8th June, 1980.

(b) A statement is laid in the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d). Imports of oil and petroleum products are planned on the basis of the minimum requirements of the economy and no reduction has been effected on account of increases in OPEC prices.

Statement

Sl. No.	Product	Selling Unit	Increase Rs./SU
1	L.P.G.	M.T.	Nil
2	M.S.	K.L.	650
3	Naphtha (Fertilizers)	M.T.	475
4	Naphtha (Non-Fertilizers)	M.T.	210
5	A. T. F.	K.L.	1100
6	S. K. O.	K.L.	Nil
7	H.S.D.O.	K.L.	650
8	L.D.O.	K.L.	650
9	Furnace Oil (Non-Fertilizers)	K.L.	650
10	Furnace Oil (Fertilizers)	K.L.	Nil

Sl. No.	Product	Selling Unit	Increase Rs./SU
11	LSHS/HHS (Non-Fertilizers)	M.T.	650
12	LSHS/HHS (Fertilizers)	M.T.	Nil
13	Bitumen	M.T.	650
14	Benzene/Toluene	K.L.	260
15	SBPS/Hexane/Solvent 1425	K.L.	1100
16	M.T.O.	K.L.	650
17	J.B.O.	M.T.	690
18	Iomax/Aromex	K.L.	420
19	CBFS	KL.	620
20	RPC	M.T.	620
21	Wax	M.T.	1100
22	Lubes	K.L.	1100
23	Phenol Extract	M.T.	620

Proposal to Reduce Voting Age

*39. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHURY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to amend the law, with a view to reduce the minimum voting age from 21 to 18 years;

(b) if not, the reasons;

(c) whether any State Governments have passed resolution re. reduction of minimum voting age from 21 to 18 years; and

(d) if so, names of those States?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b). The question whether the minimum voting age for elections to Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States should be reduced from 21 years to 18

years has been under Government's consideration, as part of the proposals for comprehensive electoral reforms. As the proposals involve consideration of important matters of policy, Government are likely to take some more time to take decisions thereon, including the proposal for reducing the voting age.

(c) and (d). The Government of Kerala had forwarded a copy of a non-official Resolution which was unanimously passed by the Legislative Assembly of Kerala on the 26th March, 1971 requesting the Central Government to make necessary amendments to the Constitution, so as to confer franchise upto all Indian citizens who have completed 18 years of age.

Law Panel Reports Awaiting Action

*40. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news