

of hostilities and suspended counter insurgency operations in Mizoram, to create an atmosphere for a durable negotiated peace in the Union Territory;

(b) if so, whether this decision of the Union Government has helped in reaching settlement in Mizoram; and

(c) if so, the extent to which it has helped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). No such declaration was made by the Government on 4th July, 1980.

Approval of Five Medium Irrigation Projects by Planning Commission

*768. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
DR. FAROOQ ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether Planning Commission have recently approved five medium irrigation projects to be undertaken by the various states;

(b) total cost involved therein;

(c) whether many other State Governments have also forwarded proposals for irrigation projects for their clearance;

(d) if so, the total number thereof;

(e) whether these have not been cleared by the Planning Commission so far; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the date by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI N. D. TIWARI): (a) The Planning Commission has accepted 13 medium irrigation projects since 30th May, 1980.

(b) The total estimated cost of these schemes is Rs. 8603.245 lakhs.

(c) Major & medium irrigation project reports from the State Governments are received in the Central Water Commission which, after detailed technical examination, are put up from time to time to the Advisory Committee on Irrigation Flood Control and Multipurpose projects of the Planning Commission for consideration. On the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Planning Commission processes the cases for acceptance.

(d) and (e). Since 1-6-70, out of the 54 Major & medium irrigation projects recommended by the Advisory Committee, 11 projects are remaining to be accepted by Planning Commission.

(f) The above 11 irrigation projects have been recommended by the Advisory Committee for acceptance subject to certain conditions like clearance from environmental angle/concurrence of the State Finance Departments. These projects will be accepted after these issues have been satisfactorily resolved.

BARC Success in Producing new varieties of Plants

*770. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) have succeeded in producing new varieties of plants by producing genetic mutation by subjecting them to radio activity;

(b) if so, the names of commercial plants where these experiments had attained success;

(c) whether these have passed screening by food specialists and declared safe to eat;

(d) the steps proposed to make this benefit available to the farmers; and

(e) the other details in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.