

basis of 1978 project report of the State Government (this project envisages irrigation by flow only in Stage II), is enclosed as Annexure. The estimated value at 1976 price level would be of the order of Rs. 440 crores.

(c) Rajasthan Canal Project Stage I and II have been taken up by the Rajasthan State in the State sector and is in progress since 1958. The works of Stage I are nearing completion while works of Stage II have been taken up after the project was sanctioned in 1972 and are now in progress. A Command Area Development Authority has also been set up for the Rajasthan Canal Project. The Command Area Development work of the Stage I of the Project, likely to cost Rs. 256 crores are expected to be completed by 1985. The work on the Command Area Development Stage II Project is yet to be started. Till March 1981, only 60% of the engineering work and 24% of Command Area Development work have been completed. While the Central Government would like the project to be completed in the shortest possible time finances would have to be provided by the State Government within its own plan. However, Central Government would give all possible assistance to the State Government in procurement of scarce construction material, guidance on technical and other matters etc.

Vizhinjam Fishery Project

*211. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASANADAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) when the Vizhinjam base of exploratory fisheries project started functioning;

(b) what are the details of its functioning so far; and

(c) its achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) A temporary base at Vizhinjam started functioning in October 1981.

(b) and (c). Survey of fishery resources has commenced in October, 1981. It is planned to conduct the survey for one year.

Buffer Stock of Rice in Tripura

*213. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to maintain a buffer stock of about 20,000 MT of rice in Tripura; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Buffer stocks of foodgrains are maintained on national basis and not on a State to State basis. Stocks are however provided in each State to ensure availability against monthly allocation made by the Government of India. There are sufficient stocks of rice in Tripura to meet the allotments made to State Government from the Central Pool. To ensure availability of adequate stocks of rice in Tripura the Food Corporation of India has arranged further movement of rice to Tripura in the month of December, 1981.

(b) Does not arise.