

**Puthiangodi.**—The proposal in respect of Pathiangadi was received in June 1981 and after examination it was found that an important component like jetty/wharf was not provided in the design and estimate. The State Government were accordingly requested to reconsider the matter and submit fresh proposals which are awaited.

**Vizhinjam.**—First stage of this project was sanctioned for a sum of Rs. 173 lakhs in July 1963. The State Government have completed this work. For sanctioning Stage II certain data about the economic viability of the harbour was required and the State Government were asked to furnish the same. Simultaneously, the Exploratory Fisheries Project (EFP) of the Government of India was asked to undertake survey of fishery resources off Vizhinjam. This survey was started in October 1981 by locating two vessels of the EFP at Vizhinjam. Upon receipt of the above material, the proposal will be examined further.

#### **New Method of Lining of Canal Channels**

\*226. SHRI GHULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN:

SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newspaper reports that soil conservation experts have successfully achieved a major breakthrough in water management;

(b) whether the new method of lining of canal channels reduces the losses through seepage from thirty per cent to one per cent;

(c) whether the World Bank experts had commended the new method; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The "New" Method of lining referred to in the question presumably refers to the use of low density polyethylene film as a lining material in the irrigation canals. The economics of preventing seepage and other loss in canals have been well recognised. Several canals in the country have been lined in the past for minimising the water loss. Various types of materials have been used in canal-lining like brick and tiles, cement concrete, shortcrete, asphalt, polythelene film etc. The low density polythelene film lining is recent in the field of lining. The types of lining to be adopted are decided on various factors like availability of materials locally, cost and efficiency etc. Polythelene lining has been used recently in several irrigation projects in our country. This type of lining requires hard cover like bricks and tiles to protect the same from damage. Its long term durability, efficacy and economics have yet to be established. This has been used also in one of the World Bank Projects' in Haryana. World Bank experts have also visited the project.

#### **Requirement of Fertilizer in the Country**

2314. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the requirements of fertilizer in the country at present; and

(b) how much of these requirements are estimated to be met by indigenous production?