

duced crankshafts for high horse power diesel engines in 1975 required by Diesel Locomotives Works, Varanasi. With the exception of crankshafts for high horse power diesel engines, such as diesel engines for locomotives, smaller crankshafts were already being manufactured in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Production of Crankshafts is being increased progressively and HEC expects to meet the Railways projected requirement of 150 Nos. of BG crankshafts per year by 1978-79.

Funds allotted for the Development of North Bengal and Backward Districts of West Bengal

*783. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) how much money Government has allotted for the development of North Bengal and other backward districts of West Bengal for the current plan period; and

(b) what was the demand of the West Bengal Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission approves outlays for various heads of development for the State Plan as a whole. Allocations for individual districts are made subsequently by the concerned State Governments. However, in the case of West Bengal, under the Plan Head 'Special and Backward Areas', which includes North Bengal, an outlay of Rs. 150 lakhs has been approved against Rs. 663 lakhs proposed by the State Government for their Annual Plan 1976-77. This includes an outlay of Rs. 33 lakhs for North Bengal. Subsequently, in their Budget the State Government have raised the allocations under this head to Rs. 217 lakhs.

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This includes a provision of Re. crore for North Bengal.

The above provision is in addition to funds which will flow to these areas from other sector programmes and the hill and tribal sub-plans.

Irrigation Plans for Bihar

*784. SHRI RAM BEAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared recently two irrigation plans for Bihar; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) Yes, Sir. Two irrigation schemes, namely, Dakranalla Pump Scheme (Phase-I) and Surajgarha Pump Canal Scheme have been cleared by the Planning Commission during April, 1976.

(b) The salient features of these two projects are indicated in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. Dakranalla Pump Scheme (Phase-I):

The project envisages lifting of 8.81 cumecs of water from Ganga to irrigate 17,343 hectares in Monghyr district. The pumping is proposed to be done in two stages. The first stage pumps to lift 8.81 cumecs by 15.4 metres are located about 4.8 km. south of Monkhyr town at the confluence of Dakranalla with Ganga. The second stage pumps to lift 6.8 cumecs by 13.1 metres are located about 11.3 kms. south west of Jamalpur railway station. An embankment is proposed to be constructed on the