

comes Delhi and Calcutta is the third. Therefore, we have chosen two to put up two centres in the Second Plan itself. But in view of the paucity of funds it was not possible to choose both of them. Delhi is a place where we have these embassies and the traffic is of a very high order. So, we have preferred Delhi first. It is a question of preference and not ignoring.

**SHRI SANJEEVI RAO :** Are Government taking advantage of the advanced technology of satellite ground station for telecommunication system as such? What are the effective steps the Government are taking for utilising satellite channels for television as in the case of advanced countries such as United States, Soviet Union and Sweden?

**MR. SPEAKER :** This is a very specific question about Calcutta. We cannot have a general discussion on this. He can discuss it when the relevant demands come up.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us if he has received a detailed memorandum from the employees of the Overseas Communication Service, Calcutta, giving their technical views on the location of the telecommunication service in India and, if so, what is it and what action has been taken on that?

**SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA :** The question of setting up a satellite centre near Calcutta has not yet been finalised. Therefore all sorts of views are before the government. At the appropriate time all these views, including those of my hon. friend, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, will be taken into consideration.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** I asked a specific question whether he has received a detailed memorandum from the employees of the Overseas Communication Service.

**SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA :** I am not aware of any such memorandum.

#### Anandpur Barrage Project

\*666. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to

state the difficulty on the part of the Planning Commission to approve the Anandpur Barrage Project?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) :** It has not been possible to approve the Anandpur Barrage Project for inclusion in the Fourth Plan of the State since the requisite resources are not in sight to take up the work at present.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** I want to know whether Salandi Project was considered as an integrated one along with Anandpur Barrage Project.

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA :** There are several projects in Orissa. This problem was examined by the Planning Commission. Even though this project has been technically approved, unfortunately no funds are available and naturally it could not be taken up.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Is it not desirable to approve of the Anandpur Barrage Project immediately to have the full benefit from the Salandi Project on which we have already spent a sum of Rs. 1.24 crores for canals, investigation and survey?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA :** The Anandpur Barrage Project, estimated to cost Rs. 21.94 crores, was cleared by the Technical Advisory Committee. But when they took stock of the situation regarding the availability of funds they came to the conclusion that only Rs. 1.75 crores were available in the plan of the Orissa State for Irrigation projects. So, three medium schemes in backward areas have already been cleared by the Planning Commission and they have been taken up. Even though this project has been technically approved and it is necessary to take up this project, I am sorry it could not be cleared for want of funds.

**SHRI S. S. MOHAPATRA :** This Anandpur Barrage Project is an integrated project along with Salandi. Unless this barrage materialises the Salandi Project will be set at naught.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Perhaps the Minister is already aware of it. Let him ask the question.

**SHRI S. S. MOHAPATRA :** Could some more funds be diverted so that this project could materialise, because it is an integrated project and it will irrigate more than three lakhs acres of land ?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA :** I entirely share the feelings of the hon. Members. This matter is under constant review. Even at the time of the preparation of the Plan for the year 1971-72 this question was discussed. I can assure the hon. Member that if it is found possible to spare some funds, of course out of the State funds, for this irrigation project we shall be only too happy to have it.

#### Decline in Export of Tobacco

\*669. **SHRI VISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of raw tobacco is showing signs of fall during the current year ;

(b) if so, the names of countries where the fall has been noticed particularly ;

(c) whether the Indian tobacco is increasingly becoming less competitive in World market ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to make the position favourable ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :** May I know whether the government have considered the desirability of utilising flue-cured tobacco, which is increasingly becoming less competitive in the world market, for manufacture of cigarettes in India.

**MR. SPEAKER :** When the Minister says "No, Sir. Does not arise" how do supplementaries arise ?

**SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :** May I know whether the govern-

ment have finally shelved the idea of forming a tobacco board, on the lines of the Tea Board and, if so, the reasons therefor ?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** The hon. Member has asked two questions, one about the quality of tobacco and the other about the constitution of the tobacco board. At present we have no proposal to have a tobacco board. Agriculture Ministry do not feel it necessary to have a tobacco board at this stage. Then, there should be no apprehension that because of the quality our tobacco export is going down. In fact, our tobacco export is going up and it is not going down. While last year our export was to the tune of Rs. 22 crores this year it is Rs. 23 crores. Therefore, there should not be any apprehension on this account. The quality of our tobacco has been good and there has been no downward trend in our exports,

**SHRIMATI LAKSHMIKANTHAM-MA—rose.**

**MR. SPEAKER :** How is she interested in tobacco ?

**SHRIMATI LAKSAMIKHANTHAM-MA :** Why should you presume that ladies do not smoke ?

May I know whether there is any scope for greater export of tobacco to foreign countries ? Since Andhra Pradesh is a major tobacco-producing State it has asked for the establishment of a Tobacco Board in Andhra. Will Government give consideration to this proposal ?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** As I said earlier, the prospects of the constitution of a tobacco board are not bright.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS—rose,**

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is not a general question about tobacco. The question is whether the export of raw tobacco is showing signs of a fall and he said, "No."

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** It is a very important question.

**SHRI AMRIT NAHATA :** There is an important supplementary about the export of tobacco.