

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir, with effect from 1st April, 1974.

(b) Does not arise.

Recommendation of Irrigation Commission regarding Development of Irrigation Potential

*536. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Irrigation Commission has identified the chronically drought affected areas and have recommended special measures for development of irrigation potentials of these areas and to mitigate the drought condition in these regions; and

(b) if so, the areas identified as chronically drought affected areas and the recommendations made by the Commission for eradicating drought and harnessing irrigation potential of these areas; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government on these recommendations during the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b). The areas identified by the Irrigation Commission as drought affected are indicated in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6601/74].

The Irrigation Commission have recommended the following priorities for development of irrigation in drought affected areas:

(i) Improvement of irrigation works so as to stabilise existing irrigation and to extend irrigation with available supplies;

(ii) Expenditious completion of the irrigation works which have been taken up; and

(iii) Investigation of further possibilities to increase irrigation from surface and groundwater and through inter-basin transfers of water to cater to the areas which are deficient in both sources and groundwater.

(c) Emphasis is proposed to be given in the Fifth Plan for improvement of projects already in operation. It is proposed to complete all the ongoing medium and most of the major continuing schemes in the drought areas. In taking up new schemes, priority will be given to those which benefit drought areas.

Kannada Speaking and other persons Employed in Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilisers

*537. SHRI S. B. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kannada speaking persons employed by Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilisers;

(b) how does it compare with the total persons employed; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied about employment policies pursued by Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by this company, there are 385 Kannada speaking persons out of a total number of 428.

(c) The personnel policy is a matter which falls within the purview of the company which is not a public sector undertaking.