

(b) During 91-92.

(c) The exchange equipment has been allotted and purchase order has been placed on M/s. ITI. The early supply of equipment has been requested.

Use of Rice Straw

1186. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose for which rice-straw can be used;

(b) whether rice-straw can be used as cattle feed and also to solve power problem in rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAISHAH): (a) Sir, Rice-straw can be used for wide variety of applications such as feed, fuel, thatching, packaging, paper & pulp, paddy straw mats and bags, rope, straw boards, compost, speciality items.

(b) and (c). Rice straw is used as cattle feed in some of the rice growing areas. Its nutritive value and palatability can be improved by urea treatment. Power can be generated in rural areas by setting up rice straw based thermal power plants.

Thoubal Multi-Purpose Project of Manipur

1187. PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any damage has been

caused to the construction of the on-going Thoubal multi-purpose project of Manipur in a recent incident;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the initial cost of the project and the expenditure likely to be incurred on the project; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). No such information has been received at the Centre.

(c) The originally estimated cost of the project of Rs. 47.25 crores, approved in the year 1980, has now been revised by the state Government to Rs. 138.84 crores. An expenditure of Rs. 41.85 crores has been incurred upto the end of VII Plan and likely expenditure during 1990-91 is Rs. 18.37 crores.

(d) During VIII Plan.

Prawn Fish Seed Hatchery at Badapokharan in Maharashtra

1188. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3674 on 30 August, 1990 and state:

(a) the details of corrective measures taken by the State/Union Government to make the Prawn Fish Seed Hatchery functional;

(b) the time bound programme to complete the structural repairs and modifications; and

(c) the reasons for not anticipating the