

(c) the time by which the work on this project will be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) Luni River Basin Project in Rajasthan has not been received from the Government of Rajasthan so far.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether a provision for a Master Plan has been made under this Project during the Seventh Five Year Plan and if so what are the details thereof ?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, there are 8 on-going projects under the Flood Prone Schemes in the Seventh Five Year Plan. These are : Upper Yamuna in Himachal and U. P.; Upper Ganga in U. P.; Sahibi River in Rajasthan, Haryana, Union Territory of Delhi; Gomti in Uttar Pradesh; Sone River in Madhya Pradesh, U.P. and Bihar; Phulpur in Bihar; Ojay in Bihar and West Bengal and Roop Narayan in West Bengal.

[English]

These are the major rivers which we have taken up under the scheme of Flood Prone Scheme. Hon. Members are pretty aware that we are very keen that Luni Nadhi should also be included in this. But so far, this project has not been given to us in the first instance. Secondly, the resources available at the disposal of Government at the moment does not permit to include any new scheme beyond these.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the Hon. Minister is very disappointing because neither a project report has been prepared in this regard nor has it been included in the Seventh Plan. This is a desert area through which Luni river flows and it can help in increasing agricultural production. There is a scheme to construct embankments along this river, but since these embankments are yet to be constructed, the river is causing a heavy loss. I want to know whether in view of this the Hon. Minister would give priority to it ?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, as I said in the beginning, our Ministry is fully sympathetic to it, we want to support it. If funds are made available to us and if State Government of Rajasthan submits a scheme to us, we shall take it up.

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a big project named Beesalpur Dam has been conceived for the benefit of farmers in Tonk, Bundi, Swai Madhopur and other districts. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the said project has been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, as I have already said, only one river is there from Rajasthan-Luni River, but the areas which the Hon. Member has referred to do not fall in its catchment area.

[English]

Consultancy services by ICAR

*312. **DR. G. S. RAJHANS :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to start a consultancy service to advise and assist the various agencies involved in agricultural research in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which the proposed service will be introduced; and

(c) the extent to which the various agencies involved in agricultural research will be benefited through this service ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to provide consultancy services in the fields of education, research and training in agricultural, related and allied sciences.

(b) The proposal is still being processed.

(c) The proposed scheme envisages the provision of scientific/technical or professional advice and assistance. It is premature to predict at this stage the extent to which various agencies are likely to be benefited.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to whether he has assessed the possibility of the different Agricultural Universities existing in different States about the potentiality of this sort of service and whether it will not be a duplication of work resulting in unnecessary expenditure.

S. BUTA SINGH : No, Sir, because the Universities operate in their respective areas and ICAR has the overall responsibility. Further the ICAR can be mobilised to extend this kind of service to the foreign institutions and foreign Governments. Therefore, the Universities are not at all hampered. This will be rather an additional facility created in the country by the ICAR.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : May I know whether this Consultancy will educate the people about the export potentiality of agricultural produce ?

S. BUTA SINGH : Yes, Sir.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : It is a welcome step that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to extend consultancy services to farmers. But there is a gap between the research conducted in the laboratories and its reaching the farmers. May I know from the Hon. Minister what steps Government are proposing to take to see that the results of the research conducted in the laboratories reach the farmers so that they can get the maximum benefit from it ?

S. BUTA SINGH : It is a fact that the knowledge that our research institutes including Universities, ICAR and all India Institutes have been able to gather through their research has not fully percolated to the farmers. I was told that we have been able to transfer to the farmers only 40 per cent of the knowledge available. There is a scheme with the Government of India — from-lab-to-land projects — and through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras and through the extension services of various Universities and the State Governments, the Government of India is very keen to see that the technology which has been created at a very high cost must be made available to the farmers so that they can make full use of this technology.

[Translation]

SHRI D. P. YADAVA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we Indians are proud of the laboratories which come under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. They have done a fine job. Will the Government consider setting up of an organisation of those Scientists who retire after attaining the age of 55, 58 or 60 years so that their services are pooled to create a full-fledged centre for Agricultural Extension Services ?

[English]

S. BUTA SINGH : It is a suggestion for action.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while congratulating the Hon. Agriculture Minister, I would like to say that there is a weakness on the part of the Government and your 'Lab to Land Programme' aimed at carrying the new technology to the farmers has a big weakness. The Hon. Minister has stated that they are continuing with the 'Lab to Land' scheme so that this problem could be solved. So far as I know, the biggest problem being faced by the Government in this regard is that whereas the Central Government want its benefits to reach the farmers, a number of State Governments are not accepting it even now due to resource constraint or some other reasons. I want to know whether Government or the Agriculture Minister for that matter are faced with this problem; if so, what is the solution thereof ?

MR. SPEAKER : The former Agriculture Minister is saying so on the basis of his own experience.

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, it is true that the 'Lab to Land' programme is not being implemented as successfully in some of the states as it should be. We are evaluating it and it is the endeavour of our Government to see that it is implemented successfully in all the States and the Government would take prompt action should some problem arise in any of the States. I must also mention as I did at the outset that 60 per cent of our scientific technology in agricultural sector, though ready with the laboratories,

Universities and Institutes, is yet to reach the farmers. The Medium for transfer of this technology is our 'Lab to Land' programme and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Earlier, we had decided to have at least one Krishi Vigyan Kendra in each district, but we have not been able to do so due to financial constraints. Efforts, however, still continue to cover maximum number of districts during the Seventh Five Year Plan itself.

[Translation]

Completion of projects in Calcutta by
N. B. C. C.

*313. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite heavy losses incurred by the Calcutta Metropolitan Unit of the National Building Construction Corporation Ltd., New projects are being undertaken by the Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the profits or losses thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the causes of the projects not being completed by the stipulated time and if so, the nature of enquiry to be conducted and by what time ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :
(a) and (b). There has been an overall profit in the Metropolitan Transport projects undertaken by NBCC in Calcutta. A statement showing details of profits/losses on these projects is given belows.

(c) Most of the contracts have been or would be completed by the Corporation within the extended period. As such, question of holding an enquiry does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Progressive profitability/loss as on 31.3.85 (in lakhs of rupees)	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	MTP Section I	(+) 1.37	—
2.	MTP Section X	(—) 100.75	Contractual claim of nearly Rs. 100 lakhs is lying for acceptance of arbitration with MTP and this loss is likely to be recouped.
3.	MTP Section IX (R)	(—)35.41	Contractual escalation payment of about Rs. 361 lakhs is held up by MTP for approval for Railway Board and on receipt of this payment, the loss would be recouped.