

IMPORTS : Chemicals and compounds, Iron and steel, Non-ferrous metals, Machinery and appliances, Electrical machinery and appliances, Transport equipment.

FRANCE

EXPORTS : Tanned and semi-tanned skins, Textiles, Pearls, Precious stones, Handicrafts, Ores and minerals, Coir yarn.

IMPORTS : Iron and steel manufactures, Electric machinery and apparatus, Non-electric machinery and apparatus, Fertilisers, Chemicals and railway vehicles.

Rajasthan Canal

73. **DR. KARNI SINGH :**
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KUMARI :

Will the Minister of **IRRIGATION AND POWER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of the Rajasthan Canal is not being conducted with the vigour and speed it needs for want of funds; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to provide necessary funds to expedite the completion of the work ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) The work of Rajasthan Canal Project is progressing according to the present schedule. Work on Stage-II of the Project has not yet been started.

(b) Funds, consistent with the available resources, are being provided within the State Plan for the construction of Rajasthan Canal Project, out of the block grants/loans given by the Centre to the State. In addition, non-Plan Central assistance has also been given to the extent possible to expedite progress.

Plan for Rural Electrification of West Bengal

75. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of **IRRIGATION AND POWER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any specific plan has been made to electrify all the villages of West Bengal by 1974; and

(b) whether the work on the plan has started and if so, the progress made so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). Emphasis in rural electrification schemes during the Fourth Plan continues to be on the energisation of pumpsets; the electrification of villages is a subsidiary part of this programme. A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been made in the West Bengal State Plan for energisation of 2410 pumpsets which would have resulted in the electrification of an estimated number of 500 villages. Additive financing for acceleration of rural electrification schemes is provided in the Central Sector by the Rural Electrification Corporation which has given special consideration to schemes in States like West Bengal where the progress of rural electrification is below the all India average. From funds in the State Plan, and finances provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation and depending on the mobilisation of further resources by the State Electricity Board, the State Electricity Board have estimated that 35000 pumpsets and 10000 villages would be electrified in West Bengal during the Fourth Plan. Out of about 38454 villages in West Bengal, 2435 were electrified at the commencement of the Fourth Plan; 3080 have been electrified up to 30.11.71. The number of pumpsets electrified was 1199 at the commencement of the Plan and is 1406 as on 30.11.71. The Rural Electrification Corporation has so far sanctioned 14 rural electrification schemes in West Bengal envisaging loan assistance of Rs. 1047 lakhs for the electrification of 3115 villages and 12764 pumpsets.

Railway Line between Malda and Balurghat and Domohani and Jalpaiguri

76. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state :