

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Bagmati River Project, an ongoing scheme, is included in 8th Plan proposals of Bihar.

(c) and (d) Talks with Nepal were last held in Second meeting of Sub-Commission on Water Resources in April, 1991. It was decided to complete the studies on Pancheshwar and Karnali Projects.

Ram Temple at Ayodhya

352 **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:**

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI K P UNNIKRI-SHNAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any fresh move to bring about a negotiated settlement of the Ram Janam Bhumi-Babri Masjid dispute, and

(b) if so, the details of the move and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Telugu-Ganga Project

353. **SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telugu-Ganga Project is still awaiting clearance of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Telugu Ganga Project, though techno-economically appraised by the Central Water Commission, its consideration was deferred by the Advisory Committee in April, 1988 as the project had not been cleared from inter-State angle. In order to resolve the inter-State issues the meeting of the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra, convened by the then Minister (Water Resources) on 5-4-1990 could not materialise as the Chief Minister of Karnataka informed that the Chief Ministers would themselves resolve the issues relating to sharing of Krishna waters. The three Chief Ministers met twice in 1990. They are to meet again for consideration of the four tentative alternative proposals that emerged during their second meeting.

Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir Project of Andhra Pradesh

354 **SHRI SOBHAN DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted the Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir Project to the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken up accord clearance to the said project so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had forwarded Pulichintala Project's proposal estimated to cost Rs. 138.57 crores to the Centre in October, 1985. It was observed that the project was not based on detailed surveys and investigations and the justification for project was also not clearly brought out. The project was, therefore, returned to the State Government in October, 1986 for preparing a revised Project Report. The State Government have informed that they have constituted in May

1991 an Expert Committee to go into the details of all aspects of the Pullichintala Project and prepare a project report in a manner acceptable to the Central Water Commission.

accordingly pursuing the matter with the State Governments. The Project can be considered for acceptance only after the satisfactory resolution of the associated issues including environmental and forest clearances.

Vamsadhara Project Stage II

355. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vamsadhara Project Stage II is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken to accord clearance to the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Advisory Committee for the clearance of the projects had deferred the consideration of the project for want of resolution of inter-State issues concerning submergence of land in Orissa. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is also required to obtain clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Welfare from environmental angle and for rehabilitation and resettlement issues respectively.

(b) and (c) In a meeting of the officials of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa convened in the Ministry in March, 1991 for resolution of inter-State issues, it was decided that the officials of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Central Water Commission should inspect the site jointly for examining the necessity of the hydraulic model studies. The Central Water Commission is

[*Translation*]

Development of Agriculture in Backward Areas

356. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural productivity has declined due to continuous rise in the prices of agricultural inputs;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any schemes to control the prices of agricultural inputs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have formulated any schemes for the benefit of farmers living in the backward, hilly and plateau regions of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MILLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN). (a) No, Sir. The agricultural productivity has shown a sustained growth rate of 2.47% per annum during the period 1967-68 to 1989-90.

(b) and (c) In order to keep the cost of production within the limits the Government have been providing major agriculture inputs viz., fertilisers, power, irrigation, pesticides etc., at reasonable and subsidised prices. In fact, prices of fertilisers, which is a major purchased input have not been raised since 1986.