

(c) the measures being taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). The prime responsibility for implementation of power projects in a State rests with the State Government/State Electricity Board concerned.

At present power projects totalling over 38,000 MW of capacity are under various stages of implementation in different States. The progress of implementation of projects is sometimes affected by factors such as inadequacy of funds, non-sequential and/or delay in supply of equipment, difficulties in land acquisition, shortage of key construction material and geological, engineering and labour problems.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to assist the State/project authorities in expediting the implementation of power projects. These measures include regular monitoring of the projects by the Central Electricity Authority, efforts to expedite supply of equipment and materials, visits to project sites by engineers of the Central Electricity Authority to resolve problems and organising review meetings of agencies concerned to coordinate project implementation. Detailed guidelines have also been issued to the State Electricity Boards for improved project management.

Implementation of Land Reforms

65. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to complete land reforms by the year 1985;

(b) if so, how many acres of land were acquired, Statewise, at the end of 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 and how much was distributed;

(c) the reasons of the tardy implementation; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken for its speedy implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND

RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (d). Significant progress has been made in Land Reforms and implementation of Ceiling Laws. Efforts are continuing to further accelerate the progress. Under the revised ceiling laws enacted in accordance with the National Guidelines, 1440172 returns were filed by surplus land holders. Of this 1416531 returns have been disposed of and only 23641 returns remain to be decided. An area of 42.81 lakh acres have been declared surplus. Of this till December, 1984, 30.01 lakhs acres has been taken possession of and 21.22 lakhs distributed to 15.91 lakh beneficiaries. A statement showing statewise position is Laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT.-87/85*]. Of the remaining area, part is unfit for cultivation and part has been reserved for public purposes including social forestry while some is involved in litigation. Efforts are being made to distribute area of which possession has been taken and which is actually available for distribution. In the current year the target for distribution is 2 lakh acres against which according to available information 82492 acres have been distributed upto November, 1984. It has not been possible to take possession of all the area declared surplus, primarily on account of litigation. States have been advised to strengthen the administrative machinery, to improve monitoring arrangement and to take effective steps for the disposal of court cases. Majority of ceiling laws have been brought under the protective umbrella of IXth schedule of the Constitution.

Development of Fisheries in Adivasi and Backward Areas

66. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Government sponsored schemes for development fisheries, particularly in Adivasi and backward areas of the country; and

(b) the action taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.