

technical clearance for construction of Barak Dam (Tipaimukh Dam);

(b) whether it is a fact that the progress of work is being hampered due to the opposition of the Government of Manipur; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for smooth implementation of the work?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Technical clearance has been granted subject to certain conditions.

(b) and (c). Work is held up in absence of agreement between the States. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Manipur.

#### Modernisation of Irrigation Project

1353. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Maharashtra have sent any proposal to the Union Government for the modernisation of irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Sangola Branch Canal Project Report received from the State Government in Feb.1986, was techno-economically examined in the Advisory committee in May, 1989 for an estimated cost of Rs.37.01 crores subject to clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests & concurrence of State Finance Department to be obtained by the State Government.

(c) The State Government is required to comply with the observations of the Advisory Committee.

#### Irrigation Facility

1354. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :  
SHRI MADHABA SARDAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of irrigated land in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of irrigated land in the State of Orissa;

(c) whether it is a fact that irrigation facility is less as comparison with other States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). As per Land Use Statistics brought out by Ministry of Agriculture upto 1992-93 (latest), the percentage of net irrigated area to total cultivable area in Orissa was 25.6% as compared to national average of 27.2%. The percentage of irrigated land differs from State to State as the factors contributing to the creation of irrigation capacity, including the financial constraints, availability of water resources and cultivable land, topography, etc., differ from state to state.

(e) Irrigation being a State subject, the Government of India is pursuing the matter of increasing the area of irrigated land with the State Governments by laying stress on early completion of ongoing major & medium projects, giving priority for speedy completion of the ongoing surface water minor irrigation schemes, encouraging conjunctive use of surface and ground water, promoting greater user's participation in major & medium projects and by effective implementation of the command area development programme.

#### STATEMENT

*Statewise Net Irrigated Area, Total Cultivable Area and its percentage at the end of 1992-93 (Provisional)*

(In Thousand hectares)				
S. No.	Name of States	Net Irrigated Area	Total Cultivable Area	Percentage of Net Irrigated Area to total Cultivable Area
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4029	15855	25.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36	268	13.4
3.	Assam	572	3229	17.7
4.	Bihar	3344	11084	30.2
5.	Goa	23	198	11.6
6.	Gujarat	2642	12358	21.4
7.	Haryana	2628	3769	69.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	99	807	12.3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	311	1049	29.6
10.	Karnataka	2194	13049	16.8
11.	Kerala	335	2444	13.7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4775	22811	20.9
13.	Maharashtra	2470	21165	11.7
14.	Manipur	65	164	39.6
15.	Meghalaya	45	1077	4.2

1	2	3	4	5
16. Mizoram		8	584	1.4
17. Nagaland		60	648	9.2
18. Orissa		2070	8086	25.6
19. Punjab		3861	4254	90.8
20. Rajasthan		4471	25711	17.4
21. Sikkim		16	114	14.0
22. Tamil Nadu		2698	8361	32.3
23. Tripura		50	310	16.1
24. Uttar Pradesh		11322	20838	54.3
25. West Bengal		1911	5932	32.2
Total States		50035	184165	27.2
Total UTs		66	211	31.3
Grand Total		50101	184376	27.2

Source : Land Use Statistics (Latest), brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation.

#### Indians in Hong Kong

1355. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 3000 Indians face statelessness at the time of handing over of Hong Kong to China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government intends to take up the matter with Chinese authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). According to the statistics released recently by the Immigration Department in Hong Kong, the number of persons of Indian origin likely to be faced with statelessness at some, as yet indeterminate, future date is 3,190. These persons are defined as permanent residents of Hong Kong of Indian origin who hold British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passports but do not have any other nationality.

When Hong Kong reverts to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997, those persons who can show proof of seven years of continuous residence in Hong Kong would be entitled to permanent identity cards providing them with the right of abode in Hong Kong. Most British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders are expected to qualify.

Under the present UK policy, the first two generations of offspring of British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders, born after 1997, will be given the status of British Overseas Citizens (BOC). This would entitle them to British consular protection but not the

right of abode in the United Kingdom. The third generation will not be granted this status and might therefore be rendered "stateless" unless they have acquired citizenship of China or another country by then.

(c) and (d). Government have raised this matter with the British and Chinese Governments. It has been the consistent position of the Government of India that the British Government has basic responsibility towards British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders and that it should take necessary steps to safeguard the status of these persons as British citizens. Senior Chinese officials have stated on several occasions that this group of persons do have the option of applying for Chinese citizenship.

#### Utilisation of River Water

1356. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive scheme for maximising the utilisation of river waters of the country has been drawn up;

(b) whether the Government have spotted out the areas/States which are likely to be affected by water distribution disputes during the next ten years; and

(c) measures in hand to prevent such disputes taking a serious turn on account of the rising shortage of water and the rising level of demand in different areas/States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) A National Perspective for Water Resources Development has been prepared by the Central Government for transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins which will help in maximising the utilisation of river waters. Reduction of evaporation losses in reservoirs and efficient conveyance and distribution of water also help in maximising the utilisation.

(b) With the increasing trends in population and economic generation activities in the country, the demand of water is increasing. As such, reduction in per capita availability of water may lead to disputes.

(c) Agreements and Tribunal awards on sharing of water between the basin states are binding on the parties. The states have to supplement the increasing requirement of water by conjunctive use of Surface and Ground Water.

[Translation]

#### Roads Falling under Cantonment Area

1357. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy to ban the roads falling under cantonment area for public transport;