

### Irrigation Projects of West Bengal Pending Clearance

19. DR. BIJOY MONDAL:

SHRI SUDHIR GHOSAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Irrigation projects submitted by the Government of West Bengal are pending clearance of the Central Water Commission for long;

(b) if so, details of the projects submitted by the State Government date-wise; and

(c) what specific steps have been taken or proposed to expedite clearance of these proposals submitted by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Only one medium irrigation project is at present pending in the Central Water Commission for scrutiny. This was received only in January, 1978. Six other projects—two of them major—which were received in CWC during the years 1973 to 1976 are now pending with the Government of West Bengal for sending replies to the comments of the Central Water Commission.

(c) In addition to the normal correspondence with the State Governments for sending their clarification/replies to comments of Central Water Commission, periodical meetings are also held in the Central Water Commission with the State officers for expediting these cases.

### Study of Bio-gas Plants by Indian Council of Agricultural Research

20. SHRI SUDHIR GHOSAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council for Agricultural Research made any

study about the clean, cheap and efficient model of Bio-gas plants;

(b) if so, the details of the research thereof and the names of the Scientists participated in this work and the result achieved;

(c) whether any action was taken by the Ministry up-to-date to popularise the result achieved by these Scientists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has initiated a coordinated Research Programme on Bio-gas Technology in May, 1977 at the seven centres viz., (1) IARI, New Delhi, (2) Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, (3) G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, (4) Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar, (5) University of Agricultural Sciences, College of Agriculture, Dharwar, (6) Sri Parashakthi College for Women Courtallam, (7) Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore with the Coordinating Centre at IARI. In this scheme, studies are underway to develop more efficient and less expensive bio-gas plants.

(b) The research thereof is concerned mainly with the organisms, their efficiency, their reaction on different organic wastes, seasonal fluctuation in gas production, reduction of contaminants: manurial value of residue and the cost-benefit ratio of Gobargas plants. The names of the Chief Investigators at different research centres are:—

1. IARI, New Delhi—Dr. T. D. Biswas, Head, Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry.

2. PAU, Ludhiana—Dr. M. S. Grewal, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering.

3. G. B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech., Pantnagar—Shri S. P. Kul-