

लिखाई मंत्री (श्री केदार पाण्डे) : (क) श्री (ख) कुम्हारजीनगर, बांध सुरक्षा सब केन्द्रीय जल प्रायोग ने अपनी व्यक्तिगत हेलियत से 'मगरीश' के मॉडल-जून, 1980 के घंटे में एक लेख लिखा था, जिसमें बांधों के जीर्णन (एजिंग) की समस्याओं की समीक्षा की गई थी, श्री प्रत्येक बांध की सुरक्षा का समय-समय पर जायजा लिये जाते रहने की आवश्यकता बताई गई थी, ताकि इन बांधों को जितने लम्बे समय तक संभव हो, सुरक्षापूर्वक संचालन किये जाने की स्थिति में बनाये रखा जा सके ।

Speedy Execution of the Western Kosi Canal Project

203. SHRI HARINATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum was handed over to him by a Member of Parliament on the urgent need for speedy execution of the Western Kosi Canal Project;

(b) if so, with what result; and

(c) is it a fact that the belt to be benefited by the project has (i) one of the highest density of population in the country; (ii) practically no industry; and (iii) 98.5 per cent of the cultivable land has no irrigation facilities?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Detailed reply has been sent to Hon'ble Member on 22-5-1980 explaining fully the position in the matter. It has also been emphasised on the State Government that the project be planned for completion in the next five years. It is expected that pace of work on this project will now pick up.

(c) It is mentioned in the report of the revised estimates of the Western Kosi Canal Project, that Darbhanga district (at present, Darbhanga &

Madhubani Districts) benefited by the project is one of the densely populated areas in the country. It has also been stated that the district is mainly agricultural and the industries depend on the agricultural base, the most important being sugar for which there are five sugar mills in the district, of which 3 are in the command of the proposed canal. It is also stated that the cultivated land has no irrigation facilities.

New Power Units in Western Sector

204. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal new power units in western sector of the country; and

(b) if so, the sites selected and details of the newly installed units?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) and (b). Planning for power development is a continuous process. During each Five Year Plan period, the demand for power is estimated, and new projects are identified to meet the demand in a projected time frame. Projects are also identified for meeting the demand during the next Five Year Plan period as the gestation time for power projects is long.

The projects under construction at present in the country are listed in Annex. I.

For new units, the power programme for the country, State-wise and Region-wise, for the period 1980-85, has not yet been finalised. The Planning Commission have set up a Working Group to draw up the power programme for the period 1980-85 and indicate a perspective upto 1989-90. The Working Group has not yet submitted its report.