

**Major and Medium Irrigation Schemes of Maharashtra pending Clearance**

210. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 major and 16 medium irrigation projects are lying pending clearance with the Central Government in respect of the State of Maharashtra for more than three years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) by when Government propose to clear these projects?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) (3). Major Projects namely, Nandur Madhmeshwar, Warna and Tillari of Maharashtra are pending clearance with the Central Water Commission for over three years. No medium irrigation projects is pending for clearance for more than 3 years in the Central Water Commission.

(b) and (c). These projects are pending clearance as replies to the comments/clarifications sought by the Commission are still awaited from the State Government. The State Government have been requested as depute their officers for discussions of outstanding points, so that the projects can be cleared early.

**Shortfall of Fertilizer Production**

211. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prospects of any improvement in fertilizer production are bleak because of the deteriorating power supply position in the country;

(b) if so, whether the shortfall of power has been one of the principal reasons for the dismal fertilizer production during the last year;

(c) if so, whether the same position is prevailing in the current year also;

(d) to what extent the shortage of fertilizer has been; and

(e) what steps are being taken to improve its position?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c). Production in many fertilizer plants has been seriously affected on account of power cuts/restrictions imposed by the various State Electricity Boards. This has been one of the major factors accounting for a substantial production loss in 1979-80. The power availability in the period after July, 1980 would depend considerably on the nature of the coming monsoon.

(d) and (e). During the current season, no shortage of fertilizer has come to the notice of the Ministry of Agriculture who arrange the supplies of fertilizers.

To the extent there is a gap between the requirement and domestic production of fertilizers, adequate import arrangements are made. Besides, buffer stocks of fertilizers are maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture at a number of places to ensure timely supply of fertilizers.

**Talks between Bangladesh and India regarding sharing of Ganga Waters**

212. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state whether pending any settlement between the Governments of India and Bangladesh regarding sharing of Ganga waters, Government of India propose to ensure that requirement for the port of Calcutta is met adequately?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): The Government of India and Bangladesh have signed on 5th November 1977 an Agreement on the sharing of the