

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that before going for an integrated development plan for an area, the scientific study of the Geomorphological and environmental study, the ground water potential study, preparation of morphostratigraphic map, soil type map and the land use map, etc. have to be made;

(b) if so, whether such study has been undertaken by the Department and the total number of Scientific Institutions involved in this programme; and

(c) the details of progress report in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While data collected through such studies would be useful and formulation of such exhaustive resource inventories would be required for comprehensive and integrated development of rural areas, the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction has launched an integrated rural development programme, without waiting for such time-consuming and elaborate surveys, owing to the urgent need for introducing and continuing rural development programmes with particular emphasis on amelioration of poverty through provision of income generating assets and resources to the poorest among the poor in all the development blocks in the country. The Integrated Rural Development programme is now being implemented in all the development blocks in the country with a target of assisting at least 3000 families in each block and covering over 15 million families in this manner during the Sixth Plan.

#### Tungabhadra Project

2653. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of India's major irrigation-cum-electricity project which is also Karnataka's biggest undertaking, Tungabhadra Project, is gradually losing its usefulness;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for this;

(c) whether according to the latest survey, the life of this prestigious Rs. 100 crore project originally estimated at 311 years, will be shortened considerably;

(d) if so, whether the reservoir is expected to serve only upto 1989;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Union Government's guidelines to carry out periodical sedimentation was ignored till 1971-72;

(f) if so, whether it is also a fact that the setting up of two soil observations was delayed by three years; and

(g) what steps are being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (d) Silting in storage reservoir projects is a natural phenomenon and requisite provision is made at the time of planning such projects. According to the recent survey carried out in 1978, the life of the Tungabhadra Reservoir has been assessed as 208 years.

(e) and (f) Hydrographical surveys were first carried out in 1963. There was some delay in the initial stages in organising the surveys because of non-receipt of equipment, instruments, motor launch, etc.

(g) Soil conservation, afforestation and watershed management is being carried out by the Karnataka State in the catchment area since 1962-63. Tungabhadra Board is also carrying out afforestation in the foreshore of the reservoir.