

ance of this policy, export of more commodities will be entrusted to the STC from time to time.

Take over of Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission

390. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI :
SHRI ROBIN KAKOTY :

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

(a) whether he has received a communication from the Government of Assam requesting Government of India to take over the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B N. KUREEL) (a) and (b). The Assam Government have been requesting the Centre from time to time to take over the responsibility of the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission. The proposal is under study.

Extent of Loss Due to Strike of Work-Charged Employees of Rajasthan Canal

391. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of the Rajasthan Canal came to stand-still in June, 1972 due to strike by work-charged employees ; and

(b) if so, the extent to loss due to the strike ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B N KUREEL) : (a) and (b). Rajasthan State Government reports that the works of Rajasthan Canal have not come to stand-still due to the strike of the workcharges employees from 10th June, 1972 and the question of loss, therefore, does not arise.

Setting up of Textile Export Corporation

392. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to set up Textile Export Corporation ;

(b) if so, the aims and objects of the proposed Corporation ; and

(c) the volume of textile exports during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C GEORGE) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While such details are being settled, take-over of export trade in textiles by Government through the Corporation is contemplated in accordance with the Government's policy to expand the role of public sector.

(c) Year	Volume Rs lakhs
1969-70	11,153.3
1970-71	11,542.6
1971-72	11,027.1 (Provisional)

Floating of S.T.C Capital to Employees and small shareholders

393 SHRI RAM PRAKASH. Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has suggested to Government that it should be allowed to float part of its capital for the employees and the small shareholders like the Unit Trust; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The Chairman, S.T.C. had made suggestions in this behalf in his statement of Annual General Meeting of the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., in September 1971. These suggestions have been noted. No Concrete proposals has so far been received.

Increase in the pay of High Court Judges

394. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enhance the pay of High Court Judges and also enlarge the Judges' perquisites, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI H R GOKHALE) (a) and (b) There is a wide-spread feeling that the terms and conditions of service of High Court Judges are not attractive enough for able members of the Bar to accept Judgeship. The matter is, therefore, under consideration of Government.

Inter-State River Dispute

395 **SHRI NIHAR LASKAR** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre is responsible for drawing up and executing schemes on rivers in respect of which there were inter State disputes, and

(b) if not, how such inter State disputes are settled ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B N KUREEL) (a) and (b) Irrigation is a State subject. Projects on rivers, whether they are inter State or intra State have therefore to be planned and executed by the State Governments, wherever necessary in cooperation with other States. When disputes arise, all possible efforts are made to resolve them through negotiations. A number of problems and inter-State differences relating to irrigation, flood control and hydro-power have thus been settled through negotiations amongst the concerned States. A few others are under discussion amongst the States concerned with the assistance of the Central Government. For those disputes which cannot be settled by negotiations Tribunals can be set up under the Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956 for adjudication of the disputes.

Fluctuations in Prices of Rubber

396. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are aware of the wide price fluctuations in the rubber market even after the continuous efforts of the Central and State Governments to stabilise the price level,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to stabilise the price level, and

(c) the total quantity of rubber purchased by State Trading Corporation till date ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) and (b) Due to strikes and go slow in some tyre and non-tyre units and power cuts in some areas, and accumulation of stocks with small rubber growers with its echo prices, there has been fluctuations in prices of natural rubber. The following steps have been taken to stabilise the prices of rubber and are expected to maintain the price level —

- (i) To ensure availability to small growers of prices notified in September 1970 and for lifting of accumulation of stocks, State Trading Corporation was directed to enter the rubber market in October, 1970 for purchase of rubber from small growers through cooperative societies.
- (ii) At a series of meetings held from time to time the manufacturers agreed to stock natural rubber equivalent to 3.5 months stock required by tyre manufacturers and 2.5 months stock by non tyre units.
- (iii) Kerala State Government was sanctioned a loan of Rs 2.50 crores for rubber price supporting operations in November, 1971. Out of the total loan, two instalments of Rs 50 lakhs each have already been released to the Kerala State Government who entrusted it to the State Cooperative Marketing Federation for purchase of rubber from small growers, cooperative societies and other societies dealing with rubber.