

enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

- (6) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the States in artificial recharge of ground water. This scheme is at consultation stage.

[English]

World Bank Assistance

577. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan has been provided by the World Bank to the State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and U.P. to undertake water management projects in State recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made by each State to achieve the target fixed for completion of work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

578. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN:

SHRI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is willing to open a motorable route to Kailash-Mansarovar in Tibet; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The possibility of providing an alternative route for the Yatra has been under discussion with the Chinese side since 1993.

We have proposed alternative routes through Shipki La (Himachal Pradesh) and the Demchok route through Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir). The Chinese side have indicated that our proposals for alternative routes are under consideration in consultation with the local authorities in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR). They have cited difficulties in opening new routes on the grounds that it would involve travel over much

longer distances over difficult terrain with poor road conditions and lack of proper infrastructure for accommodation and communications. They have also expressed the view that development of infrastructure in these remote areas would not be an easy task and building facilities for alternative routes could take a long time. It could lead to a substantial escalation in the fee charged from Indian pilgrims (currently frozen at US \$500 per pilgrim until the year 2000 A.D.).

On the India side Government are willing to consider all possible routes, including the motorable option, taking into account the availability of infrastructure, logistical facilities and other relevant factors. Our efforts to open a new route are continuing.

Irrigation Projects in J & K

579. SHRI VISHNU DATT VAIDYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects of the National Water Management are under implementation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the date of implementation, cost of each project and the total area of land which is likely to be irrigated after the completion of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sardar Sarovar Dam

580. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of construction of Sardar Sarovar vis-a-vis the progress on upstream R & R works;

(b) whether the Sardar Sarovar Dam did not attain an obligatory minimum water level of 110 metre so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to attain the prescribed water level;

(d) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been extending its cooperation for the resettlement of the oustees of the project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the other measures being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) At present, effective height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is being maintained at EL81.5m. The progress upto 15.10.1998 on upstream Resettlement and Rehabilitation at the full height of Dam is as under:

State	Total Number of Project Affected Families (PAFs)	Total Number of PAFs Resettled
Gujarat	4600	4452
Maharashtra		
(a) In Gujarat	999	684
(b) In Maharashtra	2114	1515
Madhya Pradesh		
(a) In Gujarat	14124	2983
(b) In Madhya Pradesh	18890	733
Total	40727	10367

(b) and (c) A minimum water level of 110.63 metre with a dam height of 112.5 metre is necessary to derive partial benefits of irrigation and power. However, in view of the Supreme Court orders of 5.5.1995 on the Writ Petition of Narmada Bachao Andolan raising of the spillway blocks beyond the effective height of 81.5 metre has not been possible so far. An Interlocutory Application of the Government of Gujarat filed on 9.12.1996 seeking permission to raise the effective height of the spillway portion of the dam from the present level of 81.5 metre to 85 metre is still pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter was last heard on 24.11.1998.

(d) and (e) Since the last meeting of Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority held on 13.11.1996, the Resettlement and Rehabilitation Sub-group has held 8 meetings, the Rehabilitation Committee has undertaken 4 visits to Rehabilitation and Resettlement sites. Besides 3 Inter-State meetings of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat Field Officers to resolve operational field level difficulties coming in the way of smooth implementation of Resettlement and Rehabilitation Programmes have already been held.

(f) Does not arise.

TV Transmitters in Orissa

581. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of TV transmitter at Bhubaneswar in Orissa State and the areas covered by it;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some new TV transmitters in Orissa particularly at Narasinghpur;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(d) whether the Government also propose to increase the capacity of any transmitter in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Whereas Bhubaneswar lies in the coverage range of High Power Transmitter (HPT) DD-I Cuttack providing national network and regional programmes, a Low Power Transmitter (LPT) DD-II is functioning at Bhubaneswar and providing metro network service in the coverage range of about 20 kms. inclusive of fringe service range.

(b) Yes, Sir. An LPT at Narasinghpur is already functioning since April '95. There is no proposal, at present, to set up another transmitter at Narasinghpur.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Schemes for raising the power of HPT, Sambalpur from 1 KW to 10 KW and upgradation of LPTs at Behrampur and Sambalpur (DDII) to HPTs are, at present, under various stages of implementation.

Statement

Existing TV Transmitters in Orissa	Under Implementation TV Transmitters in Orissa
1	2
PPC	PPC
Bhubaneswar	Bhawanipatna
Sambalpur (Int.)	Sambalpur (Pmt.)
HPT	HPT
Baleswar	Sambalpur
Bhawanipatna	Behrampur
Cuttack	Behrampur
Sambalpur	Sambalpur (DDII)
Cuttack (DDII)	
LPT	LPT
Anandpur	Nayagarh
Angul	Tushara/Saintala
Athamalik	Karanja
Balangir	Rajgangpur
Ballapal	Birmitrapur
Banapur	Kharlar
Bargarh	
Baripada	Simliguda
Behrampur	Jalpara
Bhadrak	Gondiya (Kapilas)
Bhanjanagar	Kulad
Bhuban	Chikiti