

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c). Locations of both the proposed projects are situated in Nepal. While final agreement has not been reached in respect of Karnali project, Jalkundi Project was not acceptable to HMR Nepal.

#### **N.T.C. Showrooms**

1507. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to open N.T.C. showrooms in all towns; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Ban on Inter-State Movement of Foodgrains**

1508. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lift ban on the Inter-State Movement of foodgrains from the current Rabi season;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this arrangement would be applicable for all the foodgrains or for specific foodgrains only; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) to (d). There is no ban on the movement of rice, wheat and coarse grains. In view of the need to maximise procurement of rice for public stocks, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Chandigarh Administration have imposed inter-State movement restrictions on paddy. Rajasthan and Pondicherry have imposed, respectively, 25% and 30% export levy on paddy.

It is proposed to consider the feasibility of removing these restrictions on inter-state movement of paddy in consultation with the concerned State Governments.

[English]

#### **Cost Effectiveness in FCI**

1509. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is perpetual increase in establishment costs in the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to contain this by adopting modern management tools;

(c) whether the subsidy to Food Corporation of India is continuously rising threatening the very existence of the Food Corporation of India; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to reduce this subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Establishment costs in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the last three years have been as follows: