

PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). A paper study of the possibility of inter-linking of rivers in the country was attempted by the Central Water Commission in 1971. It was, however, considered that before a view could be taken of any elements of such schemes, it is essential to first study, in depth, the position of surpluses and shortages in various regions, basins/sub-basins *vis-a-vis* the possibilities for economic inter-basin and inter-regional transfer of water taking into consideration the minimum needs of drought prone areas. A separate Unit under a Chief Engineer has recently been set up in the Central Water Commission and the necessary field work is being organised. The State Governments have also been addressed for supply of requisite data. It is expected that some preliminary reports on the feasibility of some of the links should be available in the course of next 3-4 years.

Inter-State Disputes re: Use of River Waters

*18. SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of inter-State disputes regarding use of river waters;

(b) the extent to which continuance of such disputes has affected the well being and economic development of the people of India;

(c) whether Government propose to nationalise the use of river waters for rational utilisation in the interest of the country; and

(d) if so, the particulars of time bound plan, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) The main pending disputes relate to Narmada Godavari and Yamuna rivers.

The disputes relating to Narmada and Godavari waters are being adjudicated upon by the Tribunals set up under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956.

In the meantime, however, in the case of Godavari Basin, concerned States have agreed on substantial allocation of Godavari water for new projects. In the case of Narmada Basin too, the States have agreed to take up work on four smaller schemes each in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Detailed studies about the Yamuna Basin have been carried out in consultation with the concerned States and the matter is proposed to be discussed with the States' representatives in the near future.

(b) Since the available funds for irrigation projects have been fully utilised, it could be said that disputes have not materially affected the development of the country as a whole so far but there has been consequent delay in the undertaking of certain projects in the disputed basins affecting the development of specific areas.

(c) and (d). The question of direct involvement of the Centre in the planning of the uses of waters of inter-State rivers and other related matters is under active examination.

Land Reforms

*19. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDRAM:

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

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

(a) the concrete steps taken during the last seven months to expedite land reforms so as to effect increased production and to bring about social and economic justice to the weaker sections;

(b) the magnitude of the problem; and

(c) main features of time-bound plan, if any, for speeding up the land reforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). State Governments have been urged to take necessary measures to expedite disposal of cases under ceiling laws and allotment of ceiling surplus land to eligible categories. According to information received from State Governments, nearly 2 lakh cases awaited disposal at the end of July, 1977. It is estimated that between April to July, 1977 nearly 1.18 lakh acres of ceiling surplus land have been distributed. It has been suggested to them that they should distribute the entire area declared surplus by end of December, '77. State Governments are also expected to ensure proper implementation of tenancy laws either conferring ownership on tenants or providing for the security of their tenure.

दिल्ली की वृहत योजना में परिवर्तन

* 20. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या निर्माण और आवास तथा पूर्ति और पुनर्वास मंत्री वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पुरानी दिल्ली का विकास दिल्ली की वृहत योजना के कारण रुक रहा है और जो व्यक्ति मोरी गेट तथा अन्य क्षेत्रों का विकास करना चाहते हैं उन्हें उस काम से रोका जा रहा है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार वृहत योजना में परिवर्तन करने का है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार अपनी नीति की घोषणा कब तक कर देगी ?

निर्माण और आवास तथा पूर्ति और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त) :
(क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) उपर्युक्त संदर्भ में वृहत योजना को बदलने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता । तथापि, मौजूदा वृहत योजना 1981 तक लगाये गए प्रक्षेपणों पर आधारित है । आगे के प्रक्षेपण 2001 ईस्वी तक लग ये जाने हैं तथा इसे एवं पिछले अनुभव को ध्यान में रख कर वृहत योजना तैयार की जा रही है ।

(ग) कार्य पहले ही आरम्भ किया जा चका है ।

Drinking Water Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

1. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of drinking water schemes in different States till the end of October, 1977; and

(b) the total assistance given to the Madhya Pradesh Government till date and its utilisation by the State Government at the end of October, 1977?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a): Drinking water supply schemes for urban and rural areas form a part of the State Sector of the Fifth Five Year Plan. Information regarding the progress of implementation of these schemes in various States is not available with the Central Government.