

Narmada pipe line-cum-road scheme

2371. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had recently sanctioned Rs. 540 crore for Narmada pipeline cum road scheme, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether Rs. 540 crore is estimated for a bridge across bay of Cambay or it also includes the cost of pipeline from Narmada to Rajkot;

(c) by when the work of the above project is likely to commence;

(d) by when it is likely to be completed; and

(e) whether finance for this project will be provided by the Central Government; if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, what are the proposed sources of finance for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) No such scheme has been received from the State Government in this Ministry. However, the Govt. of Gujarat had forwarded to the Ministry the Feasibility Reports for transportation of 50 mgd of water through pipeline from various alternative sources, including Narmada river to Saurashtra and Kutch regions of the State. The report was examined by the CPHEEO and their technical observations have since been communicated to the Govt. of Gujarat for further necessary action.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Supply of Narmada waters to Coastal Saurashtra

2372. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SAGAR RAYKA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 474 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1987 and state:

(a) whether Government had recently received any scheme for tugging of Nar-

mada waters through sea to the coastal Saurashtra; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that as per the above scheme the State Government of Gujarat is not to make any capital investment and whether the water is likely to be made available much faster and cheaper; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) No scheme for tugging of Narmada water through sea to the coastal Saurashtra has been received from the Government of Gujarat. However, this scheme has been suggested by Shri Chimanbhai Mehta, MP which has been referred to the Government of Gujarat for their detailed views/comments.

Processed food industry

2373. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had recently mentioned that steps should be taken to help the farmers by developing the processed food industries, to absorb the agriculture surpluses;

(b) if so, the reason for not treating the processed food industry on par with the milk industry; and

(c) the reasons for not removing the excise duty on processed food industry and exempting the excise on packaging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Prime Minister in his budget speech, 1987, had indicated that "better food packaging and food processing can contribute greatly to raise the income of our farmers and that MODVAT (Modified Value Added Tax) will now be extended to cover food products....".

(b) Processed food industry cannot be compared with milk industry as the former undergoes various manufacturing processes.