

Delay in execution of Gandak Project in Bihar

818. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that long delay has been made in the execution of the Gandak project in Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the reasons of this abnormal delay in the execution of the Project;

(c) what is the increased amount estimated to be spent; and

(d) by what time the Gandak project is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) Gandak Project was originally accepted by the Planning Commission in 1961 at an estimated cost of Rs. 36.56 crores (Bihar portion of Cost). A second revised estimate for Rs. 350.93 crores was cleared in 1977. An expenditure of Rs. 370.89 crores has been incurred by Bihar Government upto March, 1985. According to the State Government an additional amount of Rs. 112.53 crores is required for completing the balance works on the project.

The delays in execution have been due to inadequate funds provided by the State in the Annual Plans, land acquisition problems, shortage of scarce materials etc. The State Government expects to complete the balance works by the end of the Seventh Plan.

Damage due to floods

819. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND
MOHUNTA:

SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated damage due to floods and drought during 1985 (till date) both financially as well as physically and the area and population affected in various parts of the

country (State-wise) and how does it compare with that during 1980-1984 (year-wise); and

(b) what is the comparative rise in the Central assistance to the affected State Governments for flood and drought relief since 1980 (till date) Statewise and what is the actual expenditure incurred by them (State-wise) on flood and drought control schemes as against the total outlay during the Sixth Plan period stating the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House after receipt.

T.V. Sets in villages

820. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts have been made to widen the access of television viewing to all sections of society and whether T.V. sets have been provided in all villages of the country for group and community viewing;

(b) if so, what is the total number of T.V. sets in the villages at the end of October, 1985;

(c) whether the identifications of villages for 2000 direct reception and 2000 VHF sets to be deployed in six States has been completed and sets installed;

(d) what will be the total cost of T.V. sets to be installed in each village of the country; and

(e) whether the above cost is included in the allocation of Rs. 1500 crores for Doordarshan in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir. T.V. signals are available through High Power