we want to tell you something about yourself by making a submission and I do not want to make it to a third person: that is not my habit. not back-bite people; I tell people on the face.

Oral Answers

MR. CHAIRMAN. You can say what you like to me; I am not worried about it a little bit; it is not that.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: But could have told me. The other day you promised to listen but even without saying anything, without having the ordinary courtesy to say: "Mr. Ramamurti, I promised you..."

MR. CHAIRMAN: At 12 O'clock, Mr. Ramamurti, I shall settle matter with you by the record this House, what you said and what I said. At 12 O'clock I will join issue with you. It is not my purpose do it only because, if you think that I am that timorous person, you mistaken.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: I am also not a timorous person.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know it.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: I have been in public life for over 40 years...

MR CHAIRMAN: There are people who are cast in a better mould.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: I know also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, question No. 441.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: Sir. No. 458 is possibly the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will combine, if possible

Conversion of Forests for non-forestry Table of the House.

\*441. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAN-DRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any forests have been converted to non-forestry uses since the ordinance prohibiting deforestation was promulgated;
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard:
- (c) whether Government propose to survey the denuded areas; and
- (d) if so, by when it is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-TURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUC-TION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Since the promulgation of the Forest (Conservation) nance in October, 1980, the Central have given their Government cases involving 2239.3 proval in 11 ha. for use of forests to non-forestry purposes.

- (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House
- (c) A central scheme of Survey of India (FSI) has been ' ched in 1981-82. One of th tives of the FSI is to com statistics of the forest country on a ten year cycle by aerial photo-interpretation It will details of deunded areas.
- (d) The scheme of Forest Survey of India has been launched in 1981-82 and one-tenth of the Forest area in the country will be covered every year.

<sup>†</sup>The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla.

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## Statement

Brief particulars of cases in which permission of the Central Government has been given under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use of forest lands for non-Forest purposes.

Sl. No	State		Areas in hects res	Locations	Purpose for which use of fores land has been allowed
I	Karnataka .	•	84.0000	Belgaum	For textile mill project of M/s Gogta Textiles Ltd. in exhange of 138 hectares offered for affore station.
2	Kerala	•	2.2770	Quilon Distt.	For construction of right bank canal under the Kallada Irriga- tion Project.
3	Kerala .		5 · 8000	Quilon Distt.	For construction of left bank main canal under Kallada Irrigation Project.
4	Kerala	•	80.0000	Trivandrum Forest Division	For use of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.
5	Maharashtra		37.8225	Thane Forest Division	For work connected with Bhusawal- Kalwa transmission lines.
6	Rajasthan .	•	υ· 605 <i>0</i>	Sirohi & Ajmer Forest Division	Establishment of micro wave repea- ter station by the Indian Olf Company Ltd.
7	Tamil Nadu	•	2000 • 0000	Kanyakumari District	For use of Department of Space.
8	Uttar Pradesh		24· <b>200</b> 0	Banda Forest Division	For use of Central Railways.
9	Uttar Pradesh		2.3800	East Dehradun Forest Divn.	For construction of Barasi Khas Canal.
10	Uttar Pradesh	-	1.7100	Sewalik Forest Division	For construction of a ropeway to connect Hardwar Town with Mansadevi Temple.
11	Uttar Pradesh		0.0334	Chakrata Forest Division	For setting up of an automatic flood forecasting instrument by the Central Water Commission.

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DR (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP-TULLA: Sir, now, when forests have come under the Concurrent List and the deforestation prohibition Ordinance has also been promulgated, if the forest contractors go against this prohibitory order, what action government takes? Is cutting of trees without the permission of the appropriate authorities within the purview of this Act and does it come under the category of cognisable offence. Is

it in the same category of offence as that of killing of a living being?

Then, Sir, in reply to part(b) of this question, details have been given in regard to the lands which have been given for non-forestry uses. Land has been given for science and technology, pace research and so on. But I find from this statement that some land is being given to a private party for a textile mill in Belgaum

District in Karnataka and in return 138 hectares of land is being given. Can it be used for afforestation, or, it is just a waste land?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the Act which has already been enacted puts a ban on use of forest area for non-forest purposes without the permission of the Government of India. Individuals are not covered under this Act, if they cut trees from their private lands. In regard to this pany, the textile mill, which has been allowed to make use of 84 hectares of land in Karnataka, the recommendation was received from the State Government and it was said that in exchange for this 84 hectares of land, 138 hectares of land will be made available to the Development Corporation of Karnataka which had recommended this case. This land, I hope, is good for afforestation, I do not exactly know what type of land it is. But since it was a recommendation of the Karnataka Government that in return for this 84 hectares of land, which was required for setting up this industry, they would put 138 hectares of land under forest, the Government of India allowed it.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP-TULLA: Sir, it is very surprising that on the recommendation of Karnataka Government, 84 hectares of good forest land was given to this private party in exchange for 138 hectares of land, of some land, which our hon. Minister himself is not aware, what type of land it is. It may be some barren, useless, which cannot be used for afforestation I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter and enquire from the Karnataka Government what kind of land is being given in exchange for this other land. Secondly, so much is being talked about afforesenvironment and tation and about maintaining the ecological balance and so on. But it is very surprising that in our Sixth Five Year Plan, only Rs 450 crores have been marked as total outlay for forests as against Rs. 9650 crores for irrigation and Rs. 1850 crores for development of coal. Also, as the Minister informed us, there is a Forest Survey of India on the lines of the Botanical Survey of India and the Zoological Survey of India. As far as my information goes, not much work is being put up by this Survey. I would re-Minister to let us guest the hon. know what work this Forest Survey of India has done during the period under reference because a lot of money is spent on it and a lot money is involved in it for future.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: As said, the Forest Survey of India has taken the place of pre-survey of Forests of India which existed earlier. It is expected to look after large areas every year through photo interpretation technique. I hope the country will be covered But the purpose of this Department is to find out the entire area in forests which are even inaccessible, where we cannot actually go, and inspect the area on the spot. With this we shall be able to know what is the stage of degradation of our forests in the most inaccessible areas too. The hon. Member should feel happy that the Government of India has allotted substantial amounts of money for very important and useful work and there should be no worry on account of any money being wasted on it.

With regard to the land allotted to this mill, this is the only case, out of the 11 which have so far been sanctioned, that I had not seen personally before this permission was given. I have come to know about it today the reply to this after I received question. All the other cases were properly. I have myself scrutinised look into those cases. They have been sanctioned at the Ministers even at a higher level because the Prime Minister herself is very keenly interested that any forest that is put to some other use, must be for a very essential purpose particularly, for development purpose.

Therefore, if there has been any mistake in granting permission, to this mill, I shall again get it checked up.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: Sir, today are passing through energy crisis and firewood is the most natural renewable source of energy. One of the leading experts in the field, Mr. Futehally, put our consumption at four times to what we can regenerate in the matter of forests. My thoughts also go back to what happened to Europe when it was totally denuded after the last World War Then they planted fast growing trees and they built up their forests once again. I have come across a case in the tribal areas of Bihar where they are planting trees, called acacia, ariuna and asha. Not only do they provide firewood... (Interruptions). Aand you would recall the famous firewood march at the International Energy Conference in Nairobi last month only. So, they can provide logwood for their houses, and since silk worms are available, they can also provide them with occupation This is one thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question, Mr. Bhandare?

SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN: Is it a Question Hour speech?

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: I have come across an instance where we are now experimenting on a plant called 'ku-babul' which is also known as the Havian giant. Therefore, I am asking the hon Minister what steps the Government is taking for the rapid growth of forests when they are denuded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This can be expressed in two words; what steps are being taken for afforestation?

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: I wanted to give the background so that he can follow it.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: We have a very large programme for afforesta-

tion during the Sixth Five Year Plan. An outlay of Rs. 692.49 crores has been allocated. The area covered under forests upto 1980-during the last 30 years—was only 3.55 million hectares. But as against this, our programme for the Sixth Plan envisages an area of 2.15 million hectares to be brought under plantation. That is a very huge programme and we are trying all sorts of quick-growing trees. They supply fuel-wood to the people. That is very badly needed; there is no doubt about it. That is one of the causes why forests are being denuded. Fuel shortage in India is quite acute. So all the varieties that grow quickly are being planted on people's private lands, on government land, in village woodlands and what the hon Member has suggested with regard to certain specific varieties, we are doing research in our Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun and various other departments of the State Governments are doing research to find out what particular specie of a tree is more suitable to particular climatic conditions in each State and only those varieties of trees are grown under our social forestry programme.

MR CHAIRMAN: I cannot call all of you. Other questions are there Dr. Lokesh Chandra.

डा ० लोकेश चन्द्र मानर्नाय मंत्री जी यह जानते हैं कि मोहनजोदाडो श्रीश् मसीपटिमियां की वस्तियां जंगल 35 प्रतिज्ञत से नीचे गिर जाने से समाप्त ही गयीं। हमारे देण में इस समय जंगल 35 प्रतिज्ञन से नीचे चला गया है। श्राप दस वर्ष तक यदि सर्वे कराते रहें गे श्रीर फारेस्ट रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट में श्रनुसंधान कराते रहेंगे तब तक जंगल 20 प्रतिज्ञात हो जायगा। इस लिये श्रावश्यक है कि जो जो श्रापने श्रनुसंधान कर लिये हैं उन उन पेड़ों को लगाने के लिये विशेष करके खूबबूल को लगाने की श्राप व्यवस्था करायें। खूबबुल एक साल में 11

पूरा का पूरा पेड़ हो जाता है उस के लिये ग्राप ठांस कदम उठायें जिससे कि हरारे जंगल का क्षेत्र कम न हो।

दूपरो बात, श्राप यह अश्वासन देते को कृश करें कि फारेस्ट गार्डस हैं अंगलों की रक्षा करते हैं उनको ठीक ठोक वेतन मिले जिससे वे सचम्च में उनको रक्षा कर सकें। म्राज एफारेस्टेशन के अंदर जो हुनारे मानव साधन हैं उनको स्रोर पूरा ध्यान नहीं है। इस लिये मैं मंत्री जीसे ग्राश्वासन चाहता हूं कि हमारे कर्मचारियों को भो वे रक्षा करें। उतका वेतन मान ग्रीर ग्रन्य स्विधायों को बढ़ाने के लिये कुछ न कुछ कदन उठाने नावें। ताथ हो साथ दूपरा यह अव्यासन भी चाहिए कि जिन पेड़ो के बारे में प्रनुतंधान हो चुका है उनको सबन्च में लगाने का कार्य प्रारम्ब कर दिस जानमा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: These are all suggestions.

रात्र बोरन्द्र सिंहः कुबबुल के प्लान्टेशन के लिये खात तौर पर कई कदन उठाये जा रहे हैं। इन का नाम क्वबूल की जगह भवबुत हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर जी ने रख दिश है इन लिगे कि 'कु' शब्द को बुरा सनझा जाता है। लेकिन यही एक स्पेसी नहीं है दरखन की जो हिन्दुस्तान के ग्रंदर मुकोद पाबित हो सकतो है। बहुत से और दरबा ऐसे हैं कि जो जल्दो बड़ ने बले हैं और सिर्फ एक हो चोज का प्रान्टेशन हम नहीं करना चाहते बल्कि ग्रब तो सरकार का ख्याल इस तरह का है कि जो हमारे अपते दरका हैं हिन्द्स्तान में पैदा होने वाले--इंडिजिनस स्पोसीज उन की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाय। जसे पोछे प्राइम मिनिस्टर जी ने कई बान कहा है कि नीम जैसे मुफोद दरखत है उन की मेडोसिनल वेल्य है उनका ज्लान्टेशन होना

the case was a man

चाहिए इसी तरीके से कुबबुल की तरह श्रीर भी बहुत से जल्दी बढ़ने वाले दरखत है जो मवेशियों के काम में भी श्राते हैं, लेकिन जैसा श्रानरेबिल मेम्बर ने कहा कुबबुल की तरफ हम खास ध्यान दे रहे हैं क्योंकि यह जल्दी बढ़ता है ग्रोंर इस से चारा भी मिल जाता है मवेशियों के लिये । कर्मचारियों वाली बात माननीय सदस्य ने ठीक उठाई। इसं तरफ़ सरकार का ह्यान है। सारी स्टेटस को पोछे प्राइम मिनिस्टर की अकामत के नीचे हमने लिखा है इस बात को देखें कि एक फारेस्ट रेन्जर के नीचे कितना इलाका होता है, फारेस्ट गार्ड की कितनी तनख्वाह है, ट्रांसपार्ट की वहां क्या सुविधायें हैं ताक वह अपने बोट के अन्दर निगाह पानी कर सके । इसमें बहुत से स्टेट्स ने तवज्जह दी है। उन्होंने हमें भी लिखा है। जब सरकार का ध्यान इस तरफ़ है तो मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि बहुत जल्दी हम जंगल के कर्मचारियों के लिए न कुछ न कुछ सुविधायें कर सकेंगे।

श्रीनती मनोरया पाण्डेय : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृषा करेंगे कि बिहार में इस आडिनेंस के पास होने के बाद भी कुछ जंगल काटे गये हैं जिनमें श्रफौरेस्टेशन का काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है।

रावबीरेन्द्र सिंह : यह जो 11 स्कीम्स मजूर हुई है इस कानून के पास होने के बाद इनमें बिहार की कोई स्कीम नहीं है। बाकी 40 के करीब स्कीम हैं जा हमारे पास पेंडिंग हैं। उनमें इस तरह की बिहार की भी कोई स्कीम होगी तो देखेंगे कि जहां जंगल हैं उनको काटने से कैसे रोका जा सकता है। लेकिन जंगलों के काटने पर पाबन्दी सखत लगाई जा रही हैं। इस सिलसिले में

त्र एक अभिहेतिय तानुन लामा चाहते हैं। उनमें नागों के उत्तर प्रोर ज्यादा लड़नी प्रोर किन्दों की जाएगी। अब भी दूगरे कारेफ ऐस्ट के नोचे कैंद की सबा का मा प्राचन हैं, जुमीना भी हो तकता है। अगर काई शखन कारस्ट ऐस्ट के निवन क दल्का काटना है।

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Sir, I want to know whether there is any proposal before the Government to allot these lands, where trees cannot grow, to the landless labour for cultivation.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: don't think there is any land where trees cannot grow except, perhaps, places like Mount Everest. We try to find a variety for each type of land and I think vegetation can grow on all types of land where the climatic conditions are normal. But allotment of forest land to people is not favoured by the Government because it is not only the area which is allotted for the people for habitation which is deforested but the danger is there also for the other neighbouring areas of the forest where the people will be encroaching upon and denuding the forest.

श्री पश्चित्र व गार्चिका : श्रीपन, सभी पनी पंत्री की ने जी जिला पणट की है कि जान श्री में श्री में निर्मा पणट की है कि जान श्री में श्री में में में हैं। में मंत्री जी का श्राच एक त्या में एक वीं ना वाइंगा जिन्हें कहा पना है कि कविंगा वाइंगा जिन्हें कहा पना है कि कविंगा वाइंगा जिन्हें कहा पना है कि कविंगा पर तीन हवार एकड का एक बाग जान है जिन्हें कराड़ों काने की नामित है स्नीर बहु है परक्ता: पाड़बेट नि० के नाम से। उनको हिथान के चक्कर में जो झड़पें वहां चनी हैं उपमें कई राजनीतिक ने नास्नों के भी होने के मनाचार हैं। इसके बारे में स्वववार में स्नाया है

कि, यह 11 तारीख का इंडियन ऐक्सप्रेस है जिसमें लिखा है कि, जो माननीय सदस्य एफ । एम । खान हैं वह भी उसमें हैं और न्युज में आया है कि साढे तीन किलो-मोटरका जंगल नष्ट कर दिया गया है। जीप का रास्ता खाली बनाने के लिए ग्रीर कोर्ट का इंजक्शंन ठुकराकर यह किया गया है। तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो इस तरह के बाक्यात् हाते हैं और चूंकि जंगल स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है, ग्रापके दफ्तर में जब इस तरह की खबरें ग्राती है तो इनके बारे में किस तरह की जानकारी आप हासिल करते हैं और इन कार्यवाहियों को राकने के लिए क्या उपाय करते हैं? यह 11सितम्बर का इंडियन ऐक्सप्रेस है जिसमें फंट पेज पर लिखा हुआ है। मैं चाहंगा कि इसके बारे में आपका मंत्रालय क्या कर रहा है यह बनायें। इसी तरह की घटना मिर्जापुर जिले में तथा ग्राँग जगहों मे भो हुई हैं जिनके पूरे व्यारे ऋखवारो में आ हो हैं। आज हा यह रहा है कि इस तरफ़ लाप वन्ही हो रही है। आनके पास खबरें आती हैं, उसके लिए आप का काते हैं। यह राज्य का विषय हाने क राते उन पर कार्यवाही होती है, ऐता तहीं हा रहा है। नतीजे के तौर पा जंगन नष्ट हा हि हैं स्रीत कराड़ों राये को सम्मत्ति सण्ट हो रही है। इर पर ऋष क्या कर रहे हैं, वशङ्गे ।

श्री राव वीरेन्द्र सिंह : जनाव, श्रनर मानतोत पहरत का मकदद किस्ते दूलरे हाउन के मेल्बर पर इलजाम लगाने का है....

श्री सभापति : वह नहीं है ।

श्री सदाशिव बगाईतकर : मैंने तो उदाहरण दिश है। यह अखबार में आया है। आपने भी पढ़ा होगा।

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राव वीरेन्द्र सिंह: इमकी इजाजत नहीं है। (ब्यवधान)

भी समापति 🤄 : जंगल का मामला है ।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह: जंगल का जो मामबा इन्होंने उठाया है उसमें फारेस्ट कानन से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं । श्रगर कि ही. श्रादेश की या किसी सिविल सूट की बात है ... (व्यवधान)

श्री सदाशिव वागाईतकर : यह अखबार में लिखा हुआ है। में वही पढ़ रहा हूं।

श्री सभापति : फारेस्ट एक्ट सेन्ट्ल गवर्नमेंट का है। वह कहते हैं कि जंगल काटे जा रहे हैं। चाहे किसी का भी हाथ उसमें हो वह जानना चाहते हैं कि त्राप इसके लिये क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं।

राव वीरेन्द्र सिंह : जनाब, मैं फिर से इस बात की जानकारी हासिल कर ल्ंगा जिस बात की तरफ माननीय मेम्बर ने मेरा ध्यान दिलाया है। लेकिन मेरे पास इस बात की कोई शिकायत नहीं है या इत्तला नहीं है । (व्यवधान)

श्री सदाशिव बागाईतकरः : राज्य सरकार बैठो हुई है तो। शिकायत कौन करेगा। (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह: राज्य सरकार मिली हुई है उन लोगों से जो लोग इस काम को जर रहे हैं तो रिपार्ट कौन करेगा। राज्य सरकार मिली हुई है, उनके अधिकारी मिले हुए हैं। वे रिपोर्ट कैसे देंगे। (व्यवधान)

**थीमती उषा मल्होता । जै**से ग्राप मिले हुए थे वैसा हमें समझते हैं।

राव बीरेन्द्र स्थि कोई स्पेसिफिक क्ष<sub>वे</sub>श्वन नहीं है। त्रगर किसो जंगल के

म्तरिलक लोज का शगड़ा है, किसी कब्जे का झगड़ा है तो इस सवाल से कोई तारलकः नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

श्री सदाशिव बागाईतकर: शायद मंत्री जी मेरा सवाल समझ नहीं पाये या मैं ठोक से समझा नहीं पाया। सवाल मैंन उठाया है कि साढे तीन किलीमीटर का जंगल जोप का रास्ता बनाने के लिये काद डाला गया है और वह कोर्ट के इंजेक्शन के बावज्य । इस तरह की हरकतेँ वहां हो रही हैं। लोकल ग्राफिसर्सको घमकी दे रहे हैं कि हम प्रधान मंत्री के खास ग्रादमी हैं हमारा फ्लां-फ्लां से सम्बन्ध हैं इसलिये आप इसमें दखल न दें। जो इस तरह की बातें हो रही है उसके संरक्षण के लिये स्राप क्या कर रहे हैं, यह मैं जातना चाहता हां।

राव वीरेन्द्र सिंह : भारत सरकार के कानुन के खिलाफ जंगल कहीं काटा जा रहा है तो मैं उसकी जरूर छानबीन करूंगा। (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : इनको इत्तला हो गई है।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मिर्जापूर में भी कियाजा रहा है इसे भाने टकर लें (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI MARGARET Sir, while I appreciate the effort of the Government to protect the forest wealth of the country, I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. have got a copy of the Notification of the Government of India regarding the committee to advise on these matters and these provisions have nothing about the problem of the mining industry. I am not championing the cause of the miners, but I feel that there has to be some kind of co-ordination because the licences to the existing mines ...

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MR CHAIRMAN: You are a lawyer. What is the connection between this and mining?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: It is de-forestation. Because permission... (Interruptions) Please let me explain. Sir, please give me half a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Alva, first you ask your question and then explain.

SHRIMATI MARGARET I am not explaining. Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the problems created by this Act and the Ordinance for those involved in mining because their licences are held up and permission to mine particular surface mining areas is being held up because of this Act. No trees can be felled and sold. Especially in Goa, there are problems as far as the administration is concerned because there is no co-ordination. Therefore, I would like to ask him whether he would amend those specific conditions in this circular providing for a certain amount of discretion to the Ministry of Mines to permit this industry to continue with this because otherwise you are talking almost a year to consider these applications to continue mining which is already in existence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In other words, surface...

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member is herself concerned about de-forestation. Therefore, I do not think the intention is to ask the Government to allow indiscriminate felling of trees where mining is taking place there is no need. The purpose of this Act is to stop diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes and to stop indiscriminate felling of threes even for mining. But wherever there are genuine difficul-

ties being experienced and mining has to be allowed, we ask for information from the States, and we shall see, wherever possible that people are allowed to mine for stones pecause the construction activity also has to be continued. Some applications have been received from the Maharashtra Government for mines and we are looking into them. We have asked for further information from the State Government, and as and when it is received, wherever possible, we shall allow mining to continue.

## Central Assistance for Irrigation Projects in Kerala

\*442 SHRI T. BASHEER:† SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Irrigation projects submitted by the Government of Kerala to the Central Government for its approval;
- (b) the number of projects approved so far; and
- (c) the details of the financial assistance sanctioned by the Central Government for each project?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Kerala Government submitted seven major and three medium irrigation schemes since 1971 to Central Water Commission for approval by the Planning Commission.

(b) Of these, only one medium irrigation scheme viz. Karapuzha has been approved by the Planning Commission. In addition, one major scheme viz., Muvattupuzha has been considered acceptable by the Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission recently, However, it is yet to be approved by the Planning Commission.

 $<sup>\</sup>dagger The \ question \ was \ actually \ asked on the floor of the House by Shri T. Basheer.$