

additional irrigation potential created in the country during the last three years (1976-77 to 1978-79) is 6.6 million hectares. (3.2 million hectares from major and medium projects and 3.4 million hectares from minor projects).

(b) About 80 per cent of potential created during these three years is being utilised.

Curtailment of production in IDPL plants

375. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was curtailment of production in IDPL, Rishikesh and IDPL, Hyderabad during 1978-79 due to simultaneous expansion activities, and modification job for implementation of Italian technology and labour problems;

(b) the period upto which this is expected to continue;

(c) what is the total financial loss as a result of this curtailment of production; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to attain full production expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) IDPL, Hyderabad:

Production was adversely affected due to 55 days strike by workmen from 17th October, 1978 to 10th December, 1978.

IDPL, Rishikesh:

Production was affected due to the fact that the expansion of Penicillin and Tetracycline capacity had to be achieved by the modification of existing fermentors for operating with better strains and modification/creation of downstream facilities in tune with the new technology. At the

same time some increase in production was also achieved particularly in regard to Tetracycline by using this new technology in the existing fermentors.

(b) IDPL, Hyderabad:

Does not arise, since the loss of production was due to strike by the workmen.

IDPL, Rishikesh:

All the fermentors will be converted to the new technology and production stabilised by December, 1980. Endeavour will be made to off-set the loss in production by fermentor modification by pressing into operation more fermentors out of the total of 44 fermentors at Rishikesh.

(c) IDPL, Hyderabad:

The strike by the workmen caused loss of production estimated at Rs. 7.6 crores.

IDPL, Rishikesh:

The effect of expansion activity on production cannot be precisely estimated in view of the off-setting impact of operating unmodified fermentors with new technology.

(d) The present main constraints in attaining full production both in Hyderabad and Rishikesh are (i) power and water shortages at Hyderabad and (ii) power shortages at Rishikesh. The concerned State Governments have been moved to restore full power and water supply.

Decline in the capacity utilisation of various fertiliser units

376. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capacity utilisation in many fertiliser units like RCF, Trombay, HFC, Dur-