

### Coal-based fertiliser plant

\*307. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether the Government has any proposal under their consideration to set up a new coal-based fertilizer plant in Madhya Pradesh apart from the Korba fertilizer plant; and if so, where is it likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): No Sir.

### F.A.O.'s report on Garland Canal Project

\*308. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: SHRI PARKASH MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food and Agricultural Organisation's report on the feasibility of Garland Canal Project to link up the major rivers of the country has been received; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDE): (a) and (b) No report on the feasibility of Garland Canal Scheme has been received from F.A.O. However, a meeting of the Indian experts and the FAO officials and their advisers was held in Rome from 5th to 9th December, 1977 to discuss the Garland Canal Project prepared by Captain Dastur as well as long-term water development planning in India. In this meeting Captain Dastur was also present. The Director General, FAO sent a report on these discussions which, *inter-alia* stated that;

(i) Formulation of a comprehensive scheme involving all the

major river systems of the country is urgently called for;

(ii) Dastur Plan provides a valuable contribution to formulating such a comprehensive scheme, though one part of it, namely, the Himachal and Ganga Canal System, needs further in-depth study in several aspects;

(iii) The proposal of a transfer system from the Western Ghats to the East and North for the Central and Southern India plateaus provides a basis for an immediate start of action;

(iv) Implementation of such a scheme should involve the rural masses on a sustained basis and should enlist the urban youth in a form of national service;

(v) Necessary legislative measures might have to be considered by the Government of India to make itself responsible for the Master Plan involving transfer of water from one river basin to another.

### Thein and Nathpa-Jhakri projects

\*309. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that the Himachal Pradesh Government have refused to accept the terms of agreements reached with Punjab and Haryana Governments on Thein and Nathpa-Jhakri projects;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps the Central Government propose to take to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.