

World Bank aid for Narmada Irrigation Project

3. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Un-starred Question 1987-B in the Rajya Sabha on 21st March, 1979 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken so far or are proposed to be taken shortly to speed up the implementation of Narmada Tribunal Award;

(b) what are the details of the proposals submitted by the Government of Gujarat for securing assistance from the Central Government and the World Bank; and

(c) what action is being taken by the Central Government in regard to seeking external assistance for the projects in Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) the decision of the Tribunal was published in the Official Gazette on 12th December, 1979 from which date the decision became final and binding.

The States are finalising the schemes to be taken up in near future in the light of the Tribunal's decision. On receipt of these from the State Governments, they would be considered for acceptance by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the development plans of the concerned States.

(b) and (c) The States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have approached the Central Government for seeking external assistance for their projects in the Narmada Valley such as Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat, Bargi, Narmada Sagar, Omkareshwar, Maheshwar etc in Madhya Pradesh. The relevant details such as the latest estimated costs of the projects, the time-frame for their implementation and the corresponding provisions which would be made by the concerned

States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are under discussions with the States. The question of posing the projects for any external assistance will depend upon the final outcome of these discussions.

Decline in production of coal

4. SHRI DHARAM CHAND JAIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of coal has gone down considerably; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) No, Sir. Production in April to December 79 was 73 mt. as against 71.7 mt. during the same period last year.

(b) Does not arise.

5. SHRI DHARAM CHAND JAIN:

5. SHRI DHAHAMCHAND JAIN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a shortfall in production of aluminium during the last six months; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The monthly production of aluminium in the country registered an increase of about 18 per cent over the corresponding period of the previous year till August 1979. However from September 1979 there has been a steep fall in production on account of severe cuts in power supply to the aluminium smelters imposed by the concerned State Electricity Boards and also owing to the labour trouble.