

### Protection and repair of canals

\*232. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representations from various State Governments recently for the protection and repair of canals which cause heavy floods almost every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Government has not received any specific representation from any of the State Government recently for the "protection and repair of canals which causes heavy floods almost every year". However, proposals are received from State Governments from time to time for central assistance for the Extension, Renovation and Modernization projects which *inter alia* include component for repair and modernization of canals. Government of Punjab has recently forwarded proposals for relining of Rajasthan feeder canal and relining of Sirhind feeder canal in specific reaches during the current year for inclusion under AIBP. One of the objectives of the proposals is to reduce the seepage to avoid water logging in the adjoining areas.

### Demand and supply of uranium

\*233. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the gap between the demand and supply of uranium for reactors; and

(b) in what way Government proposes to fill this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Out of 19 reactors (4560 MW) in operation, 8 reactors (1500 MW) are under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards and use imported uranium. There is no gap in demand and availability of uranium for these reactors. The remaining 11 reactors (3060 MW) operate on indigenous uranium which is not available in the required quantity at present. These reactors are therefore operated at about 70% of their maximum power level.

(b) Pursuant to several initiatives of the Government, indigenous fuel supply has improved. The projects of opening new uranium mines and processing facilities in the country are continuing with a view to closing the gap between supply and demand.