

the sweepers engaged for the purpose are appointed through the Employment Exchange.

(b) The employing authority deals with complaints relating to the sweepers appointed by them.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TEXTILE MILLS

423. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India propose to set up a consortium of Scheduled Banks to provide financial assistance to textile mills; and

(b) if so, by what time a decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal. Any assistance by a consortium of banks to the credit-worthy or sick mills can be only on a voluntary and case-by-case basis and in actual practice, when the demands are large, several banks combine to advance loans and the Industrial Development Bank of India also gives direct loans or refines loans given by the commercial banks, as may be appropriate in individual cases. The question of Government's setting up a consortium of banks for this purpose does not, therefore, arise.

424. [Transferred to the 12th March, 1969.]

425. [Transferred to the 1th March, 1969.]

#### FERTILIZER PLANT AT BARAUNI

426. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what progress has been made in setting up a Fertilizer Plant at Barauni.

(b) whether it will be completed according to the scheduled time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : (a) Contracts for the supply of plant and

machinery and also for shipping the material have been signed. The design, engineering and procurement work pertaining to various Sections is progressing satisfactorily. Contractors for construction of 200 quarters have been selected and construction work on the quarters has started.

(b) and (c) Due to delay in the delivery of land in the initial period and the likely delay in receipt of indigenously fabricated equipment by about 6 months, it is likely that the schedule of completion of the Project may be affected to some extent. It is too early to indicate precisely the likely delay in the completion schedule.

427. [Transferred to the 12th March, 1969.]

#### CAUVERY WATERS

428. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the negotiations going on between the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Mysore on the sharing of Cauvery waters; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in that regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### RE-EXCAVATION OF LOWER DAMODAR IN WEST BENGAL

429. SHRI CHITTA BASU :  
SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN  
GUPTA :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 84 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1968 and state :

(a) whether Government have since received the final scheme drawn up by the West Bengal Government in connection with the re-excavation of Lower Damodar in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the nature of the scheme; and