

with regard to the construction of the Ganga Barrage at Farakka?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): Technical examination of the Ganga Barrage Scheme has been completed. Certain further investigations and model experiments are however in hand. The whole case is before Government for consideration of the complicated technical, financial and other issues involved.

AUCTION OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO WORK OUT TEAK TIMBER FROM BURMA BORDER FOREST

***285. SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 207 in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th February, 1959, and state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation pointing out grave irregularities resulting in loss of revenue to Government in connection with the auction of the exclusive right for working out timber from Burma border forest at Imphal held on the 23rd January, 1959; and

(b) if so, what action, if any, has been taken on the representation?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) A representation alleging certain irregularities has been received.

(b) The report of the Chief Commissioner, Manipur, on the allegations has been obtained and is under consideration.

USE OF "KARELA" IN TREATMENT AND CURE OF DIABETES

***286. SHRI LALJI PENDSE:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the most promising results obtained by the use of "Karela" in the treatment

and cure of diabetes as announced by Dr. Vad, M. D. of Bombay;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain eminent German pharmaceutical establishments have taken up this experiment with a view to producing medicine out of "Karela"; and

(c) whether Government propose to undertake further research with a view to producing a standard drug out of this indigenous article?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Government are aware of the claim put forward by Dr. Vad in regard to the efficacy of "Karela" in the treatment and cure of diabetes.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) The Indian Council of Medical Research is being asked to examine the question.

POST OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING ADVISER

***287. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present incumbent of the post of Agricultural Marketing Adviser has not been approved by the Union Public Service Commission; and

(b) what are his special qualifications for the post?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) The appointment of the present incumbent of the post of Agricultural Marketing Adviser has been agreed to by the Union Public Service Commission, on a temporary basis.

(b) Bachelor of Agriculture and also holds a certificate of merit on Agricultural Marketing awarded by the Department of Agriculture of the United States Government. Has worked as Deputy Agricultural Marketing Adviser for one and a half years.