

Demolition of Vidarbha canal

*375. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 23 kilometre long canal, which took 20 years to build and was meant to irrigate Vidarbha region, has been demolished due to extremely poor construction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The Left Bank Canal of Gosikhurd project, Maharashtra of length 22.93 kms was started in 1994. Some cracks were observed in the lining of this canal because of poor quality of concrete. Accordingly the contractors were asked by the State Government of Maharashtra to remove the faulty lining work and reconstruct the lining at their own cost.

(c) Irrigation being a State subject, the Irrigation projects are planned and executed by State Governments themselves. Accordingly, the State Government of Maharashtra has taken necessary action in this regard.

New procurement policy for Government departments & PSUs

*376. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's new procurement policy for its departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), has recommended for the preferential purchase from micro and small enterprises including those of SC and ST enterprises;

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

(c) whether any quota has been fixed for purchase from these categories; and

(d) if so, the mechanism to ensure that the quota guidelines are followed?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE).