

gold and see how it is selling in the black-market?

Shri Morarji Desai: There is no question of Government keeping track of black-market prices. If Government is able to do that, Government can stop the black-market also. I do not understand how that is to be done. Things are reported and they are enquired into; whatever information is feasible is given. This is the result of the enquiry, that the present price is about Rs. 96. If anybody has any other information, I am prepared to follow it up provided he gives me that information.

High Power Commissions for Water and Power

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*308. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up high power commissions for water and power as suggested by the Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination in New Delhi in February, 1963; and

(b) if so, what will be the purpose of these commissions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मंत्री जी ने अपने बयान में बतलाया कि पानी का पूरी तरह इस्तेमाल नहीं होता है और बिजली की जो कमी है वह पूरी नहीं होती है तो फिर इस को ठीक करने के लिए सरकार क्या इंतजाम खोज रही है ?

Shri Alagesan: I am not able to follow.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: The Minister stated in his statement that the water 2891 (A) LSD—2.

is not utilised fully and there is dearth of power. What does the Government do in this matter?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know what the hon. Member has in mind.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: As regards irrigation facilities, in DVC the water is misused and that water is not being used for irrigation purposes. Do Government propose to take any steps in this regard?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know how it arises out of this question. Yet, I should like to say that the water is not being misused by DVC. In fact, it is being used by the West Bengal Government and more than 6 lakh acres have been irrigated out of the Durgapur barrage water.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: If there is no such proposal, may I know what is the substitute at present in the Ministry for the Commission of the British days which used to assess the development of power in the country?

Shri Alagesan: There is the Central Water and Power Commission, which is a highly technical body. It takes care of all the water and power projects and coordination. I do not know how he says it is a body of the British days.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, इस प्रश्न में मिनिस्टर आफ एकोनामिक्स एंड डिफेंस को-ऑर्डिनेशन के एक भाषण का उल्लेख किया गया है और अब दूसरे मंत्री महोदय ने उस से इंकार कर दिया है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह मंत्री महोदय क्या आपस में बातचीत करने के बाद कोई वक्तव्य दिया करते हैं या अपनी ही इच्छा से एक फिलासफर की तरह वक्तव्य दे दिया करते हैं ?

Shri Alagesan: The hon. Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination was invited to inaugurate a session of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power. Certainly, there is no question of his consulting us

previously. Naturally, he is conversant with the subject and he made a speech.

Shri Iqbal Singh: May I know whether Government has considered the desirability of having the utilisation of the whole resources and associating the public in all enquiries in that connection? Always all enquiries are conducted by technical personnel and the public do not have any say in the matter.

Shri Alagesan: The projects are investigated first at the State level. The State Government naturally investigate the projects as a result of public opinion. There is no question of associating public opinion as such in technical investigations. When a certain project is desired by the people in a particular area or region, the State Government does the necessary investigation about that project.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it not a fact that 25 per cent of the water resources of 12.15 million acres remain unutilised; if so, may I know what steps Government propose to take to see that this is being utilised?

Shri Alagesan: I can tell the hon. Member that some years ago the percentage of non-utilisation was much more, and as a result of persistent steps taken in this regard it has been brought down to 25 per cent. We are still pursuing the matter with the various project authorities. It should also be realised that as every year we are adding to the irrigation potential, there will be some time lag between the actual creation of the potential and its full utilisation.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: In view of the fact that water and power disputes are likely to have far-reaching effect on our federal frame-work and our inter-State relations, have the Government under their present contemplation the setting up of a Commission or calling a conference of the various State representatives to come

to a certain agreed formula on a uniform basis for the whole country.

Shri Alagesan: Water disputes are likely to arise; but, at the same time, it is not right to assume that there are any number of water disputes between the States. There is a machinery created under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act for resolving such disputes when they arise. But even without allowing that, we try to settle the matter.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Is there any criterion laid down?

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it not a fact that water disputes in India are today more than what they were ten years back; if so, may I know what is the machinery that Government have today to settle these inter-State water disputes?

Shri Alagesan: I cannot say that water disputes are more in number today. Even in the previous days water disputes have been known to be there. Since we are taking up ever so many projects and are actively pursuing them, there are likely to be disputes. But they are settled at the state level and at central level also.

Foreign Investment in India

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*309. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Heda:
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Morarka:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lately there has been a decline in the inflow of foreign private investment into India; and