

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Is there a proposal to set up a high power-body of experts to go into the whole problem of water supply? If so, how soon will it to set up?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: We have requested the Geological Survey of India and their regional offices to work with and advise and help our investigation divisions working in the different regions.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether the Minister has come to know recently that there is an acute shortage of water experienced in Bangalore? If so, has anything been done about it?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The Bangalore water problem is a very serious problem and has been before the Government of India for some time. A scheme for bringing water from the Cauvery has been under preparation. Prof. Thacker, Member of the Planning Commission in charge of this work has also visited Bangalore and given them some advice for the completion of the plan of that project. When it is completed, ways and means of raising finance will be considered.

श्री कछुवाय : देश में जो बड़े बड़े कारखाने हैं उनमें से जो पाइजन्स पानी निकलता है उसको नदियों और तलाबों में मिला दिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इसके बारे में भी उन लोगों से सलाह मशिविरा किया जाएगा जो कि बाहर से बुलाए जा रहे हैं ?

डा० सुशीला नायर : माननीय सदस्य ने ठीक कहा है। कई जगह इंडस्ट्रियल यूनिट्स पीने के पानी को खराब कर रहे हैं। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय प्रिवेंशन ऑफ रिवर-पॉल्यूशन के बारे में एक लेजिस्लेशन लाने का विचार कर रहा है।

श्री तुलशीदास जाधव : देहातों में जो कुएँ खोदे जाते हैं उनमें कई बार पानी नहीं निकलता। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बताने के लिए भी बाहर से किसी एक्सपर्ट को बुलाया जाएगा कि किस जगह पानी निकलेगा ?

डा. सुशीला नायर : हमको विदेशों से कोई वाटर ड्रिवाइनर मिलेगा यह तो मैं नहीं जानती। लेकिन जो लोग पानी के सवाल के बारे में सलाह दे सकते हैं उनसे सलाह ली जायगी।

Scarcity Conditions in Rajasthan Scarcity Conditions in Rajasthan

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S. N. { Shri Karni Singhji:
Q. 3. { Shri Bhanu Prakash Singh:
 { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in view of deficient and uneven rainfall in the Bikaner and Jodhpur Districts of Rajasthan, scarcity has been caused requiring urgent relief measures in the matter of arranging fodder for cattle and relief works to provide employment; and

(b) what financial aid has been given by the Union Government to the State Government to alleviate distress in this behalf?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Towards the end of July, 1963 reports were received regarding prevalence of scarcity conditions in certain districts of Rajasthan owing to failure of rains during the major part of the month of July, 1963. The position has, however, now materially changed since there has been widespread rainfall in most parts of Rajasthan from the 28th of July, 1963. The State Government have reported that the situation has considerably eased. The Rajasthan Government have also intimated that their demand for grass and other fodder would not now be of the same order as that anticipated before the rains set in.

The question of how best to meet the situation arising out of the failure of rains during the major part of the month of July in certain districts of the State was discussed with the Chief Minister of Rajasthan and as a result,

the neighbouring States of U. P., Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh were requested to make available to Rajasthan whatever surplus grass and fodder they could spare. Availability of 10,000 maunds of grass from U.P. and 3,000 tons of Guar meal from Bhiwani was indicated for immediate supply. Arrangement for supply of Bhoosa from U.P. was also offered.

To provide water for the thirsty cattle and for raising fodder and kharif crops, at our request, the Government of Punjab had agreed to release 600 cusecs of water from the Bhakra Main line to Rajasthan canals.

A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned by the Central Council of Gosamvardhana and a further sum of Rs. 25,000/- has been sanctioned from the Indian People's Famine Trust for the distress relief in the affected areas.

The State Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 16,30,000 for various types of relief works. A sum of Rs. 4,30,000 has also been allotted for taccavi loans.

Shri P. R. Patel: On a point of order, Sir. I submitted a similar notice about Kutch because there is scarcity of food and grass and all these things and there is no rain, and that calling attention notice that I gave was rejected. So, I want to know the rules for this. If a notice comes from a Member of the Congress Party, that is rejected; if it comes from the other side, that is allowed. So, I want to know what the rules are.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: On a point of order. This casts a reflection on the Chair.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I make a submission? I want to say this that this question of acceptance of short notice questions up till now has been so whimsical that we do not find any reason behind what is accepted by the Minister and what is not accepted by the Minister. Therefore, without making this insinuation about

the Opposition and the Congress, I think it is right that every Member in this House should know from the Ministerial Benches when they accept and why they accept and why they reject on several other occasions.

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly the difficulty with me.

First, I should answer Shri Patel. This might have been accepted because it relates to cattle which are dumb and cannot represent their case. That might be one of the reasons.

Then again, it is the Minister who has the choice to accept a short notice question or not. I have no authority there. Therefore, he will excuse me and would not make any reflections against me in that respect.

Shri P. R. Patel: I want an explanation from the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: That is, of course, left to the discretion of the Minister whether he would accept a short notice question or not. If something comes which the Minister does not accept at short notice, and if I consider that it is very important, I treat it as an ordinary question and admit it. That is all that I can do. I cannot answer anything more, but if such instances are brought to my notice, I will certainly take it up with the Ministers that there ought to be certain principles on which these should be accepted. I will take that up.

Shri Tyagi: May I appeal to you to clarify the procedure of calling attention notices, the detailed procedure as to on what grounds these questions are rejected and on what grounds they are accepted? Some clarification to Members may be given.

Mr. Speaker: I can only clarify if some of the Members come to me and discuss with me and tell me what they want. It cannot be discussed in the whole House here. We would not come to any conclusion. The Rules are clear and according to them I take decisions. Today, **Mr. Tyagi**

has got a calling attention notice. He has always been coming to my aid whenever somebody else in this House raises any objection. When today he has a notice and I reject it, he takes up the case and I do not know where to go to get help at this moment.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: My submission is that the calling attention notices came in place of the large number of adjournment motions that used to be tabled. Now, at that time we knew exactly what was within the purview of discussion of the adjournment motion. Now, there is such an important thing as the Bokaro project. It is very directly concerned with this House. When we send in a calling attention notice, we are told that there is a short notice question and therefore it will not be allowed. Then, one, two, three, five, six days go, but the short notice question does not come up, nor does the calling attention notice come up. We do not want to put in adjournment motions.

Mr. Speaker: About short notice questions, I have already said that there is nothing more that I can do... (*Interruptions.*) About Bokaro, the hon. lady Member should know that I have been pressing it and I have received certain communications. It is still there: it has not been thrown out. But sometimes the time is so delicate that in the interest of the country it may not be possible to do that, and I might agree with the Government at that time that that is not the particular moment, that it might not be discussed at that particular moment. There may be communications going on and at that very juncture if it is discussed here, instead of doing good to us, it might harm our interests. Therefore, I thought I would delay it for some days. Her notice is with me and probably it would be admitted and would be answered; the statement is coming very soon.

Shri Tyagi: I am submitting that it is very kind of you. We always

abide by your ruling because I say it is always fair. Even in my case where you have rejected it today, I am sure it must be a fair decision. But what I was appealing to you was that we must know what the rules are. I do not want to deal with it because it has not been allowed.

Mr. Speaker: He is just going to deal with it.

Shri Tyagi: The Supreme Court condemns the action of the Administration of Delhi in so many words. I cannot move for a vote on adjournment. I feel that there must be some good grounds for that. Then, I ask for a short notice question.

Mr. Speaker: In the last three days I have been getting so many notices on various decisions of the Supreme Court. I must inform the House that in my opinion decisions of the Supreme Court are not the subjects that should be made the cause of notice for calling attention or adjournment motion. There might be some special case on a particular occasion where something special might be called for and attention might be invited... (*Interruption.*)

Shri Ranga: But the Supreme-Court is the only custodian.

Mr. Speaker: The Supreme Court is the ultimate custodian of the rights of the citizens; we admit it. It gives six or seven decisions every day. Can every decision be made the subject of a calling attention notice? I would like to tell Shri Tyagi that if he wants to discuss with me, he could come to me and then we shall discuss this.

Shri Tyagi: Only one word. I appeal to you. I agree that cases differ, and that every day there are some Supreme Court judgments. But when a judgment of this nature—I do not read it—says that the administration....

Mr. Speaker: No, no.

Shri Tyagi: When they condemn the administration.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Kapur Singh.

Shri Kapur Singh: With regard to your ruling I beg to submit one thing. You have said something about where the interests of the country might be involved; you have said that when yourself and the Government agree in such a matter that is the final end of the matter. About this, I would like to express the opinion of some hon. Members on this side of the House that this phrase "country's interest" or "public interest" requires some kind of definitive precision, some clear connotation. If the question of security of the country is involved, we agree that it should be a matter for decision between you and the Ministers. But if something else is involved, namely, embarrassment to a Minister, inconvenience to the Government or something which this House is entitled to know but the Government would not wish that to be known to this House, then, this House is entitled to know the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know how he draws the inference. I am rather surprised. When I got the notice of Calling Attention, I had to ask what the Minister's reaction was, whether he has got any objection that has to be considered by me; not that I have the authority. If it is presented to me that it would not be in the interests of the country just at this moment, and when I agree, certainly that decision should be accepted by this House. If I also feel that that objection in a particular case—not because they have represented it—would not be right, then I consider what else can be done. Sometimes I will agree with the Government and sometimes I will agree with the hon. Member, whether he be a Member of the majority party or an Opposition Member. I may agree and I might overrule the Government's objection.

Shri Ranga: But let the hon. Member concerned be informed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is informed of the procedure. I have requested the hon. Member to follow the procedure. If they come and try to convince me that something wrong has been done and that such and such a thing ought not to have been done, I am open to conviction. (*Interruption*). Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: We should know exactly what things we can move and what things we cannot. Unless there is something which guides us, it becomes difficult. We naturally know that we have a right to put anything before this House which is within the purview of the Central Government. That is all we want to consider. If it is left to the subjective opinion as to whether a thing should be brought up or not, that creates confusion.

Shri Tyagi: Where the Supreme Court condemns the administration, it is our privilege to raise that question now. If the judgments of the Supreme Court are not to be taken notice of, there will come a day when the people will not take care of Parliament decision. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Whatever that might be, that is quite a different thing. It is not that a decision taken by the Supreme Court in every case does not become a subject for discussion here.

Shri Tyagi: I beg to submit that you must take the House into confidence before you give a ruling. It is a matter of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not follow what Shri Tyagi wants to say. Does he mean to say that I should take up that ruling of the Supreme Court and give the hon. Members an opportunity to discuss it here?

Shri Tyagi: No, Sir. That is not my intention. You have ruled that the Supreme Court ruling cannot be a matter of questions here. Therefore I protest against that ruling. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry if I have been understood like that, if such

words are put in my mouth. I did not say that I have no remedy at all. I have not said that every ruling in every case would not be a subject-matter for discussion here. I said that every ruling of the Supreme Court, whenever it is delivered, does not become a subject-matter here. But there would be circumstances, in some cases—

Shri Ranga: Why should we go into the theory? Why should we make the Supreme Court ruling also a question to be discussed and decided by you as a matter of ruling? Would it not be much better to keep it open?

Shri Tyagi: My submission was that when that ruling or judgment has cast any aspersion on the administration, then alone it becomes a subject for discussion here. Otherwise, it does not. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: I do not follow.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: About your observation or ruling on the Calling Attention Notice, I have also been informed that a Supreme Court judgment cannot become a subject-matter of Adjournment Motion.

Mr. Speaker: Not in every case.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In a particular case, say, the DIR case. I do not want to mention the whole case. We do not want to discuss the Supreme Court judgment but here is a constitutional question arising out of the Supreme Court judgment, where hundreds of people are detained. What is the forum to discuss them? After all, the Supreme Court judgment has very serious implications. Where are we to discuss that matter? We cannot discuss it on the streets, we have to discuss it here only. If this forum is also closed.....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has a peculiar way of putting things that he wants to say. If he cannot discuss it here in the Parliament, he says the other alternative is to discuss it in the streets.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I said we cannot do that in the streets.

Mr. Speaker: There are other ways of bringing it here. He has his own way of presentation of matters. I cannot certainly agree with him. But the question is, I have always put before the House that whenever I have given a decision—it may be wrong in the opinion of some, and it can be wrong also because I do not say that I do not commit mistakes; I do commit mistakes—and if somebody feels aggrieved the only remedy is that he may come to me, we may sit together, discuss it and see whether something could be done. (*Interruption*). Now, hon. Members should have an idea of the large number of notices that come to me. Three days back I got about 30 notices, and one single hon. Member had 12 notices of calling attention to his credit. How can I decide that all 12 which are important in the estimation of the hon. Member are important?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That is exactly the point. We should know exactly how many notices we can give and on what subjects.

Mr. Speaker: I will convene a meeting of the leaders of the groups. Then we can decide whether we ought to have a limit. But I am putting my difficulties. If one hon. Member gives 12 notices on one day, that means he is not sure if any of them is so important.

Let us proceed now. Shri Karni Singhji wanted to put a question.

Shri Karni Singhji: Could the Government consider giving higher priority to defence roads in the famine stricken areas of Rajasthan to create relief work for the famine stricken labour, and may I know whether the Rajasthan Canal work will be speeded up to solve the famine menace permanently?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, relief works are being speeded up. A sum of Rs. 2,95,000 is to be spent for relief in connection with the scarcity

conditions prevailing in several parts of Rajasthan State. A sum of Rs. 8,89,000 has been sanctioned for relief by the State Government as far as Bikaner District is concerned, and as far as the District of Jodhpur is concerned, about which this question is, a sum of Rs. 1,75,000 has been sanctioned. With regard to the speeding up of the Rajasthan Canal work, whatever that is possible is being done by the Rajasthan Canal Authorities.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: These areas have suffered from famines almost chronically and almost once in five years. In view of frequent occurrence of famines in these areas and because of the all-India character of famines and their solutions, we would like to know whether Government is considering the establishment of an all-India famine relief machinery so that famines like this could be attended to with speed and efficacy? I would also like to say this, Sir, that in answering the first part of the supplementary put by my hon. friend Shri Karni Singhji—because you told us that whenever attention is drawn the Chair always insists that full information is given—who asked whether defence roads are being given priority within the scheme of famine relief measures, to say that all that is possible is being done is nothing. We are grateful to the Ministry for what they are doing, but the answer means nothing.

Shri A. M. Thomas: In this particular case, of course, because of the failure of rains in the month of July we were rather anxious about the situation and my colleague, the Minister for Agriculture, took immediate action. He convened a high level conference—there were as many as two conferences concerning this—and all measures that were possible have been taken. Now the situation has improved. In fact, as I have already stated in the body of the answer, the situation has improved. But there was still some anxiety about two districts, namely, Bikaner and Jodhpur Districts. Regarding Bikaner

division the latest information that has been received is that there has been widespread rainfall in that district since 20th August 1963, now the position has considerably improved and there is no drinking water problem, or fodder problem as far as cattle is concerned.

Regarding the larger question that has been raised by the hon. Member, I must state that there is an all India scheme which has been formulated by the Finance Ministry. When natural calamities occur, there is a pattern of assistance by the Centre for expenditure above Rs. 1 crore. It has been laid down that the State Government should come with its scheme. There is also the ways and means assistance which is being occasionally granted by the Central Government.

Mr. Speaker: Shri S. M. Banerjee.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: When I have put a specific question, the answer should be complete in every respect. Of course, it can always be evaded. But there is a way of answering questions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He has mentioned some of the steps. The hon. Member can pursue them.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The condition that is prevailing in Rajasthan is prevailing in so many districts in other States, because of no rains or inadequate rains. I want to know whether the Central Government has taken any decision to give them the same type of help which it is giving to Rajasthan and, if so, what those facilities or reliefs are?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I do not know whether the conditions that exist in Rajasthan are prevalent in any other State.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Western U.P. for example.

Shri A. M. Thomas: If any such case is there, if it is brought to our notice, we shall rush immediate help by supplying foodgrains and starting

relief works. All that is possible will be done.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Closure of Kolar Gold Mines

- *515. {
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Gulshan:
 Shri Buta Singh:
 Shri Kapur Singh:
 Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Bade:
 Shri U. M. Trivedi:
 Shri Warrior:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri Eswara Reddy:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
 Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to high cost of production Government are considering some proposal to close down Kolar Gold Mines; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No; Sir. However, a Sub-Committee with the Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat) as Chairman has been constituted to suggest measures to reduce the high cost of production of gold.

(b) Does not arise.

Nutritional needs of Industrial Labour

*516. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific study has been made or is proposed to be made of the minimum nutritional needs of industrial labourers in various regions of the country:

(b) whether an attempt has also been made to link the nutritional needs with the food habits in the respective regions and the price index of food-stuffs; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House, [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1653/63].

Gold Refinery at Madras

*517. **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Government have requested the Central Government to give financial assistance to start a refinery for manufacture of 14 ct. gold; and

(b) if so, the cost of the scheme and the quantity of 14 ct. gold to be produced in this refinery?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) Yes.

(b) The scheme is expected to cost Rs. 4 lakhs. It is not possible to estimate at this stage, the quantity of 14 carat gold which may be produced by this refinery.

Refugees in Sealdah Station

*518. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new decisions were taken in the recent conference he had with Chief Minister, Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation and the Finance Minister of West Bengal on the 16th July, 1963 at Calcutta about clearing the Sealdah Station of refugee quatters and rehabilitating them elsewhere; and

(b) the help, financial or otherwise, promised by the Union Government towards the solution of problem of Sealdah refugee squatters?