

को देश में गल्ला अधिक उपजाने के लिए प्रोत्साहन व उत्तेजन मिले ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : यह तो एक सजेशन है । एक आम बहस की बात है जिस पर पहले ही काफ़ी चर्चा हो चुकी है ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Government has been constituting these wheat zones or rice zones only at the suggestions made by the State Governments, and I find there is no rationale behind the constitution of the zones, with the result....

Mr. Speaker: He should ask, he should not find.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether Government consider the desirability of constituting the zones with surplus and deficit areas so as to keep down the prices?

Shri Swaran Singh: The rice zones have been constituted with that object in view, and the House is no doubt aware that in the southern zone, we have Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Madras and Kerala. Kerala is highly deficit, Andhra Pradesh is highly surplus, Madras is marginally surplus, Mysore is marginally deficit. Even in the eastern zone, Orissa and West Bengal are in one zone, Orissa being surplus and West Bengal being somewhat deficit. So, this is always kept in view in forming the zones.

So far as wheat is concerned, the estimate is that the total production even in these wheat-producing areas is not likely to throw up any large surpluses. Even then, Delhi, being a big consuming centre, has been tagged on to Punjab which is surplus. Similarly, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh have been added on to Punjab. So, even in carving out the zones for wheat, the element of the surplus areas and the consumption areas has been kept in view.

12.00 hrs.

Re: Time-Limit for Question

Mr. Speaker: Question Hour is over.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Sir, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: While the Question Hour is over?

Shri A. P. Sharma: Regarding this Question Hour. For asking questions in this House a time limit has been laid down and very often we find that when we put questions, the answers are not satisfactory. I have asked a question in the month of December...

Mr. Speaker: If he has complaint about a particular question, he can come to me and point that out. I will call for that file. How can I answer that orally now? Short Notice Question.

Short Notice Question

Rana Pratap Sagar Dam

S.N.Q. 20. { **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**
Shri U. M. Trivedi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that several cracks have appeared in the Rana Pratap Sagar Dam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps, if any have been taken by the Government of India to remedy and rectify the defects; and

(d) whether any effort has been made to fix responsibility in the matter and if so, the details and results thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) and (b). Masonry dams are built in blocks, of widths varying from 50 ft. to 100 ft. Rana Pratap Sagar dam consists of 50 blocks of about 70 feet width each. In Block No. 7 where the masonry was built up only to a height of 8 ft. above foundation, a transverse crack about one to two millimeter in width

was noticed on 31st March 1964. The depth of the crack extended upto 2 ft. below the surface.

In the Spillway Blocks, 21 and 25, the masonry was built up to a height of about 70 ft. above the foundations and the concrete cover, 5 ft. thick which is provided on the downstream side, was also laid to a height about 10 ft. less than the height of masonry. The cracks were noticed on the surface of the top most portion of the concrete. These did not extend either in depth or in length and are entirely superficial.

(c) In Block 7, the masonry on either side of the crack for a width of about 3 ft. was removed for the depth of the crack, which is about 2 ft. This will be filled back and as a measure of precaution some reinforcement will be embedded.

In Blocks 21 and 25, the cracks appear to be due to shrinkage of concrete and do not require any elaborate treatment. After some time, if found necessary, repair work like gunniting or cutting and replacing the concrete will be undertaken.

(d) The reasons for the appearance of crack in Block No. 7 are under investigation.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: What would be the total cost of repairs of these cracks?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As I said, the cracks in blocks 21 and 25 are not anything serious at all. They are superficial, they do not involve any expenditure more than a few rupees. If we are going to use reinforcement for the crack in block 7, it may be in the order of about a hundred rupees.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether the cracks have appeared as a result of any deficiencies in supervision while the work was in progress or whether they have appeared on account of deficiencies in the mate-

rials used? Has this been determined so far?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The cracks in blocks 21 and 25 are of superficial character and are usual in concrete constructions. In block 7, the appearance of the crack is being investigated and I will not commit myself to any definite reason at this stage.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I would not refer to the other cracks but I will refer to the crack in pillar No. 7. Has it been found out that the contractors who were responsible for this construction and the assistant engineer and the executive engineer involved in these were also involved in constructions where cracks were noticed before?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There were no cracks in the Rana Pratap Sagar dam before. It is only in block 7 that we find this now.

Mr. Speaker: He refers to other works which these contractors might have completed.

Dr. K. L. Rao: They have not come to my notice.

Shri Ranga: He has got to make enquiries if it is not known to him or if information has not been given to him.

Mr. Speaker: He has no information now. He will try to find it out... (Interruptions).

Dr. K. L. Rao: I can add that so far as I know, there is no such case where any cracks have been noticed where these people have been working.

Mr. Speaker: If only Shri Trivedi can give information that such and such a contract was performed by these contractors and the cracks have appeared, the Minister can find out.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Has any complaint been brought to the notice of the Ministry about these cracks while the work is still in progress and not yet completed?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As I said, in block 7, the work was done only eight feet above the ground as against 140 ft. of the dam. It is in the very beginning stage. As soon as a crack was noticed,—it was a very small, minor one—action was taken.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is there any co-ordination between the Union Ministry of Irrigation and the State Governments,—because these are massive, big dams,—so that round-the-clock inspection takes place twice or thrice a year by which system accidents such as the one which occurred at the Panshet dam could be averted?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I think hon. Members are aware that these projects are done by the States under the project authorities. I have been thinking for sometime now whether we should institute a Dam Inspection Service, which will be of assistance to the project authorities in solving the difficulties and establishing quality control during the construction and during the commissioning of the projects.

Shri Nath Pai: Is it not a fact that at least some of the contractors, if not all, involved in the construction of these dams have considerable reputation as experts in cracks rather than as builders of dams?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Onkar Lal Berwa.

श्री श्रीकारलाल बेरवा : क्या यह सही है कि अभी इंरिगेशन मिनिसटर साहब राणा प्रताप सागर डैम पर गए थे और उन्होंने बीस, तीस फीट गहरी सुरंगों के डिजाइन को गलत बताया था, लेकिन इसके बावजूद सुरंगों की खुदाई जारी रखी गई और उसके धमाके से ये ब्रेक हो गये और अब उनकी रिपेयर नहीं हो सकती है ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I have not visited this dam for the last few months. These cracks—I mean this particular crack—appeared only a fortnight back. As I submitted, I will not be able to say at this stage, what exactly is the reason. They are under inves-

tigation. There are various factors which will be studied, and I will not be able to say the specific reasons at this stage.

Shri Bade: Is it not a fact that this contractor who has been assigned this dam is the same contractor who built other dams also, and have you take any guarantee from the contractor?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Unless the exact reason for the crack is known—whether it is due to the fault of the contractor or whether it is due to the grouting which is going on there by another company—we cannot fix the responsibility on any particular party.

Shri Bade: Who is the contractor? I want to know the name of the contractor, because it is a dam in Madhya Pradesh. I know that there are certain contractors who are in the black list. So I want to know the name of this contractor.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Bade: What is the name of the contractor?

Mr. Speaker: Let him sit down first. If he continues standing, what can be done?

Shri Bade: You have said, "Order, order." Therefore, I wanted to put my question, and insist on the answer.

Mr. Speaker: When I say, "Order, order," he will insist on speaking even then? That is a strange attitude. Even if I say "Order, order," he will continue!

Shri Bade: I just wanted to know the name of the contractor.

Mr. Speaker: What is the name of the contractor? Has he got it?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There are a number of contractors on this work. The masonry is being done by the Modern Construction Co.,