

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Dr. Ranen Sen.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** Is it known to the Government that the West Bengal Government has recovered a large tract of land but those lands are being sold now in auction instead of the Government trying to build up industrial housing and housing for labourers and, if that is so, what steps are the Government taking in that regard?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I was in Calcutta only about a fortnight ago. I want to make a categorical statement that the work in the housing field that the West Bengal Government has done is commendable. They have done very good work. I think the reference is to the salt lake lands. It has nothing to do with this scheme; that is the State Government scheme. In fact, I have asked the Chief Minister of West Bengal to make some lands available to me out of that scheme and he has kindly agreed to do so.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि तीसरी योजना के अन्दर हम औद्योगिक मजदूरों के आवास के लिए कितनी व्यवस्था कर पाएँगे। क्या सरकार का यह विचार भी है कि जो उद्योगपति हैं उनको आदेश दिया जाये कि वे अपने उद्योगों के निकट ही मजदूरों के आवास का प्रबन्ध करें ?

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** यह सवाल तो जमीन का है। मैंने इस के बारे में कई बार आंकड़े दिये हैं और अब भी देने को तैयार हूँ।

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** In view of the fact that during the second and third Five Year Plans large amounts in several States have remained unutilised for the construction of houses under this scheme, will the Government divert those amounts to other States which have been doing better work in this respect.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** There are two kinds of allocations: one is the allocation which is made through the LIC, and I have a certain hand in determining the amount which will be given to the State Governments. But I have no right to divert the amounts which are allocated under the State plans.

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** Even if they do not utilise it?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** What can I do?

**श्री सरजू पण्डेय :** स्टेटमेंट को देखने से पता चलता है कि जमीनों को एक्वायर करने के लिए जो सुझाव आये हैं उन के अनुसार जमीनों को एक्वायर करने के वास्ते 18 महीने का कम से कम समय रखा गया है। जमीनों को एक्वायर करने में देहातों में और गांवों में बड़ी धांधली होती है। क्या ऐसा भी सुझाव केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकारों को दे रही है कि जिनकी जमीनें एक्वायर की जाएं उनको इतना बात का पूरा मौका दिया जाये कि वह अपने को डिफेंड कर सकें, क्या उनके अधिकारों को सुरक्षित करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को कोई सुझाव दिया है ?

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** जमीन लेने का कानून लैंड एक्वाजीशन ऐक्ट है, दफा 4 है, दफा 6 है। लोगों को नोटिस दिये जाते हैं और मुआवजा मिलता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि राज्य सरकारें पूरा काम करती होंगी।

#### Modernisation of Private Electricity Undertakings

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\*215. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question

No. 1522 on the 25th March, 1965 and state:

(a) whether any decision to appoint a Committee to report on the question of modernisation of private electricity undertakings has since been taken by Government;

(b) if so, when the Committee is likely to be appointed;

(c) the terms of reference of this Committee; and

(d) when the Committee will submit its report?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra):** (a) to (d). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

At the last Annual meeting of the Federation of Electricity Undertakings of India held at Bombay on the 26th December, 1964, I had suggested that the Federation might appoint a Committee to go into the question of modernising electricity power generation and distribution systems in the private sector so that its report could assist in making a comprehensive appraisal of the problem. The Federation had later suggested that it would be more appropriate for the Government to constitute such a Committee in respect of the country's power systems. The Federation however has subsequently shown its willingness to undertake this task and submit its findings to the Government. The Federation have been requested to indicate the time by which a report containing the findings of the Federation could be expected.

**श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया :** इस समय बड़े-बड़े प्राइवेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी अंडरटेकिंग हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी दरें सरकारी इलेक्ट्रिसिटी की दरों से किस प्रकार कम्येयर करती हैं, और क्या वह सरकार से सलाह करके दरें फिक्स

करते हैं या अपनी मरजी से फिक्स करते हैं।

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao):** There are three important cities—Calcutta, Bombay and Ahmedabad—where there are big private electricity undertakings. The rates which are charged are much less than what are charged in the other sectors.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** What are the reasons for their charging at much lesser rates than what are charged in the public undertakings?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** They were done at a time when the machinery was very cheap and the cost of installation was very cheap.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** These are three cities where electricity undertakings are run by private companies. May I know what stands in the way of Government nationalising these three electricity undertakings?

**Some hon. Members:** Why?

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** . . . and reduce the cost of electrical units in cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** While reminding the Deputy Minister, when he visited Bhagalpur, that these private electric companies are not only running their outmoded and outdistance operations—but also charging very high prices, when such facts are known to the government, may I know why, instead of straightaway proceeding to remove them, they want to appoint a committee, thereby leaving the matter hanging for years to come and making the consumers suffer?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** It is quite true that beside what I mentioned earlier, there are a number of undertakings in this country, of a much smaller nature, which are highly inefficient and charging quite a high rate. It is the intention of government to take

over these undertakings gradually, specially those which are inefficient.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** You are asking the culprits to pronounce judgment on the. Why?

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Pollution of Jamuna Water**

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- \*216. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**  
**Shri D. N. Tiwary:**  
**Shri Bishwanath Roy:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1221 on the 6th May, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the findings and conclusions of the Committee appointed to enquire into the causes of pollution of Jamuna water have since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, with what result?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Shri P. S. Naskar):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Appropriate action is being taken by the different authorities concerned, on all the recommendations.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Considering that the dreaded month of September when, God forbid, a swollen Jamuna may burst her banks and play havoc with the life and property of the people, is fast approaching, is the minister in a position to firmly and categorically state that drinking water in New Delhi and Delhi will not then get contaminated and the citizens of the metropolis will not have to quench their thirst with joint water and sewage?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** It is a matter of opinion.

**Mr. Speaker:** What about the first part, whether there is any hope that Delhi and New Delhi might get pure water?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** The other day I had a discussion on this point with the 980 (AI)LSD—2.

Chairman of the Water-supply and Sewage Disposal Board, Dr. Roshan Lal. He assured me that so far there is no chance of pollution as occurred last year. Immediate action on the recommendations of the committee has been taken like putting a bund on the Najafgarh nullah, Badli dam and all that. Appropriate action has been taken. So far no such incident has happened.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** Why is this House being treated so lightly like this? Every day we are getting polluted water in our houses and we are being told that there is no chance of pollution.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** He said, there is no chance. He means, I hope there is no danger or apprehension? (*Interruptions*).

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** You know it better, Sir, how polluted water is supplied to us every day in our homes. Is the minister justified in saying like this?

**Shri Kapur Singh:** You must direct the treasury benches not to speak with this irresponsibility (*Interruptions*).

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** I can very well appreciate the anxiety and indignation of hon. Members because the water-supply situation has caused inconvenience...

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Not mere inconvenience, but disease and death.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not the anxiety, but the anger and rage that we have to suffer here.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** I used the word 'indignation' also, Sir. So far as the purity of the water that we supply in the taps is concerned, even the foreign experts that have come have said, and Dr. Taylor's report also unequivocally says... (*Interruptions*). May I request hon. Members to patiently hear the answer? I seek your protection, Sir, against this type of interruptions.