

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** I will be very grateful if my hon. friend can come and replace me. I will be very happy.

**Shri Narasimha Reddy:** I will select a suitable candidate.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** As the Minister has stated, the question is of improving the services and giving more comfort. In recent days, there has been great trouble between the pilots and air hostesses. I would like the Minister to look into it personally and to see that no undue advantage is taken by certain pilots against air hostesses.

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** As I said, I am really very unhappy about this indiscipline. I do not know if I am using a strongword. Even before the accidents occurred, from the first day I have been looking at it only from this angle how to bring about discipline, how to avoid quarrels between the pilots and air hostesses. I have discussed it with the Chairman of IAC, who is also the Secretary of the Department. It is a line of approach which we will have to take very carefully, because it may affect the whole service, there may be some strike or something. Anyway, I am giving my thought to it.

#### Drought and Failure of Rains

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- \*2. **Shri Warior:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri Indrajit Gupta:**  
**Shri Prabhat Kar:**  
**Shri Daljit Singh:**  
**Shri M. S. Murti:**  
**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:**  
**Shri R. Barua:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**  
**Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:**  
**Shri Hukam Chand**  
**Kachhavaia:**  
**Shri Linga Reddy:**  
**Shri Hem Raj:**

Will the Minister of Food, Agricul-

ture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overall position arising out of drought, partial failure of rains and floods in some parts of the country regarding Kharif harvest and future prospects of rabi has been received;

(b) if so, the State-wise position in this respect; and

(c) whether any, and if so, what measures have been taken to utilise water resources for growing rabi crops in the various parts of the country?

**The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). A statement showing the tentative estimates of production of major kharif cereals in 1965-66 and the corresponding final estimates for 1964-65, State-wise is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5426(i)/66]. As for rabi crops it is too early to give a State-wise estimate of expected production. However, the over-all shortfall in the production of foodgrains as a whole during 1965-66 may be about 12.5 million tonnes as compared to the production during 1964-65.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to utilise water resources for growing rabi crops in the various parts of the country. A statement indicating the important measures taken in this respect is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5426 (ii)/66].

**Shri Warior:** May I know whether the Government have thought of giving any tax relief to the cultivators or taking any other measures, so that at least the next crop will be in order, according to the target?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** No, Sir. It is for the additional crop that is to be raised during rabi that we are giving various concessions. We are giving pumping water, we are giving conces-

sions so that water may be supplied at reduced rate, and we are also taking into account the supply of fertilisers for this programme to give an inducement to the cultivators.

**Shri Warier:** May I know whether, in order to meet the deficit in production, the Government has taken any steps?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Yes, Sir. We are trying to import as much as possible from outside countries.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** From the statement given in reply to part (c) I see that additional funds amounting to Rs. 820 lakhs have been placed at the disposal of State Governments for minor irrigation schemes. May I know on what basis this amount is allocated among the different States with particular reference to the incidence of drought, and whether the State Electricity Boards have been asked not to increase their power rates in the affected areas?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As far as this allocation is concerned it is not on the basis of drought, it is on the basis of the capacity to absorb the amount and the availability of feasible schemes to be taken up in these areas. As far as electricity rates are concerned, already a decision has been taken that the maximum to be charged in any area even for diesel electricity should be 12 paise; over and above that it should be subsidised.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** I want to know whether Sanskrit-based Hindi terms for the Arab words *Rabi* and *Kharif* have since been discovered or coined and if so what are they?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I did not follow.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is knowledge, not information.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** I want information, not knowledge.

**Shri Bade:** *Salu* is for *rabi*; *Unalu* is for *Kharif*.

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** In view of the resistance of the cultivators for the use of canal water if they are taxed, may I know whether the Central Government is advising the State Government to withdraw the levy of tax on the use of canal water?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** With regard to new irrigation sources we are trying to give an assurance during the first two or three years.....

**Shri Ranga:** It is nothing new.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I am only stating that....so that they may get accustomed to that water. Later on an economic rate is to be considered by the government.

**Shri D. J. Naik:** In certain areas which are chronically affected by famine or scarcity conditions, what measures do the government intend to take to avert famine in those areas?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is a long-term programme which has to be taken up during the plan period for the purpose of developing various areas.

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री:** इस सूखे देश में कुल धरती का कितना भाग इस प्रकार का है, जिसमें सिंचाई की सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं हैं? क्या उस क्षेत्र में सिंचाई की सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराने के लिए लघु-सिंचाई योजनाओं को प्राथमिकता देने के सम्बन्ध में भी कोई निर्णय लिया गया है; यदि हाँ, तो उस का व्यौरा क्या है?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** For the whole country only about 23 or 24 per cent of the crop area is under irrigation. The rest of the area is to depend upon rainfall. We have a programme to have progressively more and more irrigation programmes. Even during the next year it is estimated that a new area of roughly three million acres will be brought under irrigation under major, minor and medium irrigation projects.

**Shri Daljit Singh:** How many schemes of minor irrigation have been submitted by the state governments which are still pending with the Central Government and why?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I cannot give the number of schemes submitted but generally I can inform the hon. Member that whatever feasible schemes have been submitted have all been sanctioned.

**श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धांती:** क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि किसानों को सिंचाई के लिए न्यबबल लगाने की स्वीकृति तो दे दी जाती है, लेकिन उस में बहुत भ्रष्टचन डाली जाती है और किसानों को सिंचाई करने के लिए बड़े कठिनाता से छोटे छोटे अधिकारियों से काम करवाना पड़ता है; यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार इस रुकावट को दूर करेगी?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is too general a question. We are continually impressing upon the State Governments to take action so that officials respond to the needs of the agriculturists and I hope as time goes on the administration will further improve.

**Shri Ranga:** In view of the assurance given by the late Prime Minister Lal Bahadurji that the irrigation dues should be withdrawn or should be abolished in order to encourage the peasants to grow foodgrains and bring their lands under irrigation and also in view of the crisis that is facing the country, especially in the drought-affected areas, what is it that the government proposes to do in order to implement the assurance given by him or the hope expressed by him?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The late Prime Minister's assurance was with regard to new irrigation sources. He never suggested that all the irrigation charges should be given up. It is completely a State subject. Even the Prime Minister cannot give an assurance with regard to what may take place in the State Governments.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कल्लवाय:** माननीय मंत्री जी ने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया कि हम काश्तकारों को करों में कुछ छूट दे रहे हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन को कितने प्रतिशत छूट दी जा रही है। मध्यप्रदेश सरकार ने जो पैसा पम्पिंग सैट लगाने के लिए मांगा था, वह केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अभी तक नहीं दिया है। इस लिए पम्पिंग सैट नहीं लगे है। इस का क्या कारण है ?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** With regard to the availability of finances, we have allocated them on an equitable basis to all the State Governments. Madhya Pradesh also has got an allotment. I do agree that it may not be adequate to their entire requirements, but we have to function within the availability of resources. As far as tax concessions are concerned, I said wherever water was being used for the first time, we have advised the State Governments not to charge anything for the first time, and then to progressively increase it so that they may reach the maximum rate.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कल्लवाय :** माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि काश्तकारों को कर की छूट दे रहे हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या छूट दे रहे हैं।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** वह इस वक्त नहीं बता सकते।

**Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar:** From time to time, we get different crop estimates through different sources and through newspapers, and so, in view of this, may I know whether the Government has got any machinery to estimate the crops correctly and put it out to the farmers and the public?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** We have got a machinery and we have also evolved a procedure with regard to the estimate of different crops. I am not prepared to say it is hundred per cent foolproof, but to the extent possible, we are trying to make this machinery as perfect as possible. and

it is through this machinery that we do this.

**श्री बागड़ी :** क्या मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान पंजाब के सिंचाई और बजली मंत्री के उस बयान की तरफ गया है, जिस में उन्होंने कहा है कि पंजाब के दरियाओं में पचास फीसदी पानी कम है, इस लिए पाकिस्तान को जितना पानी देना है, वह कम हुआ है और इस कारण दूसरे दरियाओं का पानी डाल कर पाकिस्तान को पानी दिया जायेगा, जब कि पंजाब के किसानों की धरती बिल्कुल प्यासी है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज जब कि देश में पानी का संकट है, जिस की बिना पर भ्रत का संकट है, तो क्या सरकार पंजाब के किसानों का पानी न काटने पर विचार करेगी और इस बारे में क्या कदम उठायेगी।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is true that there is less availability of water to the failure of the monsoon. As in the Punjab rivers, and that is due far as the supply of water to Pakistan is concerned, we are governed by international agreements and we cannot go behind those agreements. But subject to that, we are trying our best to supply water to the Punjab farmers as much as possible, because we are quite aware that the best results can be obtained from the Punjab farmers provided we provide these facilities.

**Mr. Speaker:** The fact that we are committed to international agreements is there, but if there is no water, how can we fulfil it?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is only subject to availability.

**श्री बागड़ी :** एक दरिया से पचास फीसदी पानी देने का इंटरनेशनल फौसला है, लेकिन पंजाब के दूसरे दरियाओं का पचास फीसदी पानी काटा जा रहा है, जिस का कोई अधिकार नहीं था।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मिनिस्टर साहब कहते हैं कि इस बारे में मिकदार मुकरर है कि पाकिस्तान को दरियाओं का इतना पानी देगे।

अगर एक दरिया में पानी कम है तो दूसरे से दे रहे हैं।

**श्री बागड़ी :** अगर पंजाब के दरियाओं में पानी कम है, तो क्या हिन्दुस्तान के और दरियाओं से ले कर देगे ?

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** The hon. Minister stated that so far as water charges are concerned, it is a matter concerning the State Governments. May I know whether the Central Government has ever considered the need of giving relief to the peasants, as proof of incentive to step up production, by withdrawing the irrigation charges either in new areas or wherever they want to grow additional crop, and whether it has discussions with the State Governments?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The hon. Member is correct; it is not only with regard to the new irrigation sources but even with regard to old irrigation sources, if a new additional crop has to be raised, we have advised the State Governments to give up the irrigation charges for that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### Foodgrains Requirements

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- \*3. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**  
**Shri Kajrolkar:**  
**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri Hukam Chand**  
**Kachhvalya:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri Mohan Swarup:**  
**Shri Bagri:**  
**Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**  
**Shri Basumatari:**  
**Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**  
**Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**  
**Shri Rameshwaranand:**  
**Shri Bade:**  
**Shri E. S. Pandey:**  
**Shri Bishwanath Roy:**  
**Shri Mansiah P. Patel:**

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and