

Mr. Speaker: They are not in a position to say. Next question.

Flood Control Schemes

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*43. { Shri Punnoose:
 { Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to lay a statement showing.

(a) the amount spent on Flood Control Schemes during the first year of Second Five Year Plan and budgetted to be spent during the second year State-wise, and

(b) the progress made by flood control measures to date?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure 12]

Shri Punnoose: Are the Government aware that the current monsoon has resulted in large-scale floods in the southern States and may I know whether the Government have received any representations for help to control the floods?

Shri S. K. Patil: From what State?

Shri Punnoose: To be more accurate, Kerala

Shri S. K. Patil: There are Flood Control Boards in almost all the States. Unluckily, Kerala has not yet formed a Flood Control Board. We have not got such information. Eleven out of the fourteen States have got their own Boards and allotments have been made. I have no information about complaints of floods from Kerala.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister says that no representation has been received from Kerala Government regarding floods. The Government in charge of the State must apply to the Central Government. There is neither a Board, nor has the local Government moved. What can the Central Ministry do? Shri Sinhasan Singh.

Shri Punnoose: I want information from him.

Mr. Speaker: So, he goes on putting questions of a fishing nature. Hon. Members will see here, there are a number of questions which are to be asked.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What particular steps have the Government taken or propose to take regarding the flood problem in the eastern districts of U.P. where floods are very common? Every year floods visit the place. What steps have the Government taken to prevent floods in the eastern districts of U.P.?

Shri S. K. Patil: There is perfect liaison between the Central Flood Control Board and the Boards in the various States. There is a large number of plans, not one or two. There are hundred methods by which this has got to be done. Allotments are made. So far as the U.P. is concerned, we have made allotment. Possibly, it is the largest possible.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What particular step has been taken to meet this problem in this area?

Shri S. K. Patil: Various schemes are there. Mostly those schemes are looked after by the Flood Control Board of the State concerned.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the measure of having embankments to protect the floods in the various States has not met with the success expected? If that is so, may I know in how many places the embankments have given way even in this early monsoon itself?

Shri S. K. Patil: There cannot be any fool-proof or 100 per cent success in these things—sometimes 50 per cent, sometimes 25 per cent, but there it is, and it is done in consultation with both the State and Central Governments. I cannot give exactly the figures as to in how many places it has been successful and in how many cases it has not been.

Shri Mani Ram Chakravarty: In view of the fact that the major reason for floods right throughout India on almost all rivers is the silting of the

river beds, has the Central River Research Institute at Poona co-ordinated its activities with the various State River Research Departments? At least in my State I know they have got such a department. Has there been any co-ordination and have any schemes or formulations been made as to how the desilting of the rivers will take place?

Shri S. K. Patil: That problem is under constant investigation both by the Research Centre and the various State Boards, but so far as this question of silting is concerned, to a certain extent it is true, but that is not the only reason, but most of our major irrigation schemes take cognizance of that fact also. The amounts that have been allotted are not a part of that. They are in addition to that, and surely they are not a 100 per cent answer. So far as the silt question is concerned, it is a very important question indeed so far as our schemes are concerned, and surely there is no remedy any where known to us where 100 per cent answer has been provided. We are doing our best to see that these problems are tackled efficiently.

Chambal Project

*45. **Shri Mathur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether Chambal Project has been re-examined by certain French experts,

(b) what advice, if any, has been tendered by the experts to Government and the reaction of Government to it, and

(c) whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the Sabha?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) No. Only some technical aspects pertaining to Kotah Barrage were referred to French experts for a second opinion.

(b) French experts have agreed with the Central Water and Power Commission.

(c) A few copies of the report which is of a technical nature, have been placed in the Parliament Library.

Shri H. C. Mathur: May I know whether it is a fact that even the revised estimate of Rs 75 crores for this project is found to be inadequate?

Shri S. K. Patil: We have not yet received the revised estimate.

Shri H. C. Mathur: Is the hon Minister aware that only yesterday the Minister concerned in Madhya Pradesh has stated in the Assembly that the amount of Rs 75 crores which was the revised estimate will not be adequate and that that figure will have to go up still further?

Shri S. K. Patil: It might be their opinion, but we have not received it, and the question pertains to the subject of expert opinion and there I have answered that that expert advice is just the same as the C.P.W.C.'s recommendations.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether these French experts went along with the Projects Enquiry Committee or had a separate examination?

Shri S. K. Patil: They went alone and they have made their recommendations, but they went much earlier than that.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the latest design of the barrage as approved by the C.W.P.C. differs radically from the original design as envisaged in the project plan itself?

Shri S. K. Patil: This matter is highly technical. It refers to the grouting process and so on. If the hon Member is very much interested in it, a few copies of the report have been kept in the Library on the technical aspect of it, but ultimately the advice of these foreign experts and the recommendation of the C.W.P.C. were just the same.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the estimated expenditure as under the original design is much less