

Mr. Speaker: I thought it was sewage. It is water supply. Are they mixed?

Shri Karmarkar: Water supply and sewage disposal are taken normally together. About sewage I should like to have notice.

Accident to Indian Steamship

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*258. { Shri Assar:
 { Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Yugoslav Cargo ship collided with an Indian Steamship between Bombay and Cochin in the Arabian Sea which resulted in the sinking of Indian Steamship;

(b) if so, the name of the Indian Steamship and reasons of the accident;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry about this accident, and

(d) if so, the result of the inquiry?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d) The Yugoslav Motor Vessel "UCKA" collided with a wooden sailing vessel of 55 43 tons bearing official No 9 of Nagapattinam on the 1st January, 1959 about 27 miles West-North West of Cochin in the Arabian Sea. As a result of the impact of M V "UCKA" the sailing vessel in question broke to pieces and sunk into the sea.

An enquiry into the accident has been conducted by the Mercantile Marine Department, Bombay, according to which the main cause of the collision was non-exhibition of navigation lights by the sailing vessel.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस से इंडियन शिप की कितनी हानि हुई और क्या कोई धादमी हताहत हुआ या नहीं ।

श्री राज बहादुर : कोई धादमी हताहत नहीं हुआ । इस में सेलिंग वैसल खत्म हो गया ।

Shri Sonavane: May I know whose fault it was which caused the collision and whether the Government have approached the Yugoslavia Government for fair compensation if the fault was on their side?

Shri Raj Bahadur: According to the report of the officer who made enquiries into this matter, the accident was due to non-exhibition of navigation lights by the sailing vessel. As such we cannot say that there was any responsibility on the Yugoslav ship for the accident.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How much loss has the Indian shipping company suffered by this accident?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The total loss estimated is Rs 12,000. It was a sailing vessel, not a ship.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we find that only the Yugoslav ship has sunk. I would like to know whether the sailing vessel was also sunk and if so whether the owner of the sailing vessel has been paid any amount?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Yugoslav ship has not sunk. Only the sailing vessel has sunk.

Canal Water Dues against Pakistan

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*259. { Shri Tangamani:
 { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
 { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
 { Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
 { Shri D. C. Sharma:
 { Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 261 on the 27th November, 1958 and state:

(a) the progress made in securing settlement of the disputed and

recovery of the undisputed arrears of canal water dues outstanding against the Government of Pakistan; and

(b) whether any special measures are contemplated to expedite settlement of the dues?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim):

(a) In regard to the 'disputed' charges, the latest position is that the Government of Pakistan have intimated that they have deposited a sum of Rs 97,19,980 in the State Bank of Pakistan as a credit in favour of the Reserve Bank of India with a suggestion that an agreement should be reached between the Governments of India and Pakistan before August 16, 1959 for a decision as to the respective rights of the parties in respect of this amount and the amount of Rs 29,36,485 previously deposited by them with the Reserve Bank of India

The Government of India are of the view that they would be willing to discuss with the Government of Pakistan arrangements, including reference to arbitration if necessary, for a final settlement of the entire amount of the disputed charges as soon as the Government of Pakistan have complied with their obligations under the Agreement of 4th May, 1948 and deposited with the Reserve Bank of India all the disputed charges intimated to them from time to time by the Prime Minister of India

As the Government of Pakistan have not done this as yet, the matter is under further correspondence

As to the 'undisputed' charges, the Government of Pakistan have so far paid a sum of Rs 3,11,60,874 for the period ending 30th September, 1957 and discontinued payment thereafter. As such a sum of Rs 25,97,931 is still due from them for the period upto 31st March, 1959

(b) The whole subject relating to the disputed as well as the balance outstanding towards undisputed charges is under correspondence

between the Governments of India and Pakistan

Shri Tangamani: On a previous occasion we were informed that Rs. 30 lakhs was the undisputed item and Rs. 99.49 lakhs was the disputed item. What I would like to know, in the midst of all the figures which have been given to us, is whether this Rs 99.49 lakhs still continues to be a disputed item. I would like him to refer to the answer to the previous question

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Both the amounts are still disputed

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are the obligations on the part of the Government of Pakistan to which the hon. Minister referred, and what are the obligations that have been violated so far in the dispute between us and Pakistan relating to these dues?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Under the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of May 4, 1948, the Government of Pakistan undertook to deposit in the Reserve Bank of India such *ad hoc* sums as may be specified by the Prime Minister of India from time to time for the water supplied to the Central Bari Doab and Dipalpur Canals in Pakistan from the Madhopur and Ferozepore Headworks respectively. Out of this sum Pakistan agreed to transfer to the Punjab (India) Government such sums over which there was no dispute, Pakistan also agreed to deposit the remaining balance in ESCROW with the Reserve Bank. This was the agreement which has not been implemented

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : जब कि एग््रीमेंट में यह है कि रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया में पाकिस्तान रुपया जमा करायेगा तो क्या सबब है कि पाकिस्तान ने बकाया रुपया पाकिस्तान स्टेट बैंक में जमा किया है ?

हाफिज मुहम्मद इब्राहिम : इसलिये कि वह रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया में रुपया जमा कराना नहीं चाहता था ?

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : जब कि एपीमेंट में यह है कि रिजर्व बैंक में जमा करना है तो ऐसा न होने का कारण मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ।

Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: That is why it is stated in the answer that the agreement arrived at at that time is to be acted upon by Pakistan.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Are you prepared to utilise the services of our meeting which is going to be held on the 5th April at Calcutta to unite India and Pakistan? I think this matter can be settled through our movement much better.

No answer was given.

श्री स० म० बनर्जी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को वाकई में आशा है कि यह रुपया मिल जायेगा और अगर है तो कब तक मिल जायेगा या आखिर तक नहीं मिलेगा ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आशा है ?

हाफिज मुहम्मद इब्राहिम : मैं तो हुजूर यह समझना हूँ कि इसान को बेहतर से बेहतर बात की आशा रखनी चाहिये ।
We should hope rather for the best.

Shri Tangamani: We were told on the last occasion that some files were lost in the Finance Ministry. I would like to know definitely whether those files deal with this dispute also, because no definite reply was given on the last occasion?

Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: Of this at present I know nothing. That requires notice.

Shri Tyagi: May I know what type of items are disputed and which are undisputed? I want to know the difference between the items disputed and undisputed.

Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: The undisputed items are in relation to the maintenance of the canals from which the water is given. As far as the

disputed items are concerned, they are two. During the British period this area was in some State and that State used to pay to the Punjab Government seignorage, that is royalty. That amount is disputed. The other amount disputed is the payment of interest at 4 per cent. on account of the difference of the capital value of the canals. Pakistan calculates it at twice the value and India wants to calculate it at four times the value.

Shri Tyagi: I am grateful for the information, but may I know at what rate we are charging our water? Are we charging at the same rate as we are charging the peasants here in India?

Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: The irrigation rates we charge in India are from the tenants. Irrigation rates are charged by Pakistan from the Pakistani cultivators in their country. We charge the maintenance cost to them.

Shri Tyagi: Only Not the water charges?

Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: No.

श्री बजर राज सिंह : जो पत्र व्यवहार चल रहा है पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट के साथ उसको ध्यान में रखने हुये और इस बात को देखते हुये कि पाकिस्तान की गवर्नमेंट एक निश्चित ट्रिडिकोण पेश कर चुकी है, मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि आपकी तरफ से आखिर क्या निश्चित बात की जा रही है ?

हाफिज मुहम्मद इब्राहिम : भलाई और मसलहत के साथ हर मामले को तय करना ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Indian Government have explored any other peaceful method of solving this dispute besides correspondence which has been going on for the last 12 years.

Shri Haftz Mohammad Ibrahim: At present the good offices of the World Bank are being utilised at their own

request for purposes of the solution of the differences between the two countries. If that fails unfortunately, then we will see what we can do.

Shri Tangamani: One more question

Mr Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions

Water-Logging

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- *260. { **Shri Ram Krishan.**
Shri Prakash V. Shastri:—
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Barrow:
Shri Kamal Singh.

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) the extent and nature of the water-logging problem in India,

(b) whether it is limited to Punjab or there are areas in other States also which have been affected by water-logging,

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to tackle this problem on an all-India basis and give it priority,

(d) if so, whether any scheme has been formulated for this purpose, and

(e) the details thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): (a) and (b)

(i) *Nature of problem*

Water-logging refers to the phenomenon of undue rise of sub-soil water level, which, in consequence, becomes harmful to crops and foundations of buildings. It has to be distinguished from stagnation of rain water over plain areas caused by inadequate surface drainage. But, areas affected by congestion of drainage, whether on surface or sub-surface, are commonly referred to as 'water-logged'.

In the Punjab, the problem is rise of sub-soil water level as well as surface drainage congestion. In States like West Bengal and Bihar, the problem of surface drainage congestion is much

more acute than that of rise of sub-soil water.

(ii) *Extent of the problem*

No regular statistics have been maintained regarding the water-logged areas and the rate at which they are increasing. According to the available figures, the Punjab, West Bengal, and UP are the worst-affected States, followed by Mysore, Bombay and parts of Orissa. Below are given figures of the affected areas in these States.

State	Area water-logged (acres in thousands)
Punjab	3270 (Water table between 10 to 5 deep)
U P	1889
West Bengal	2451
Bombay	80
Orissa	17
Mysore	29

(c) to (e) The problem chiefly concerns the State Governments which are responsible for formulation and execution of schemes to improve surface drainage and to lower the sub-soil water level in the affected tracts. A number of schemes for improvement of surface drainage have been taken up by the Governments of the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. At the last meeting of the Central Flood Control Board held in December, 1952, it was decided that more attention should be paid to anti-water-logging measures. The areas affected will have to be surveyed and after detailed investigations, suitable schemes will be formulated by the State Governments to deal with the problem of drainage.

Shri Ram Krishan: In the statement I find that the most effective State is Punjab. In view of this fact, may I know the nature of the help to be given to Punjab for anti-water-logging measures?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: There are 32 schemes relating to major works and some in regard to minor works are at present under investigation, and some of them are being