

(b) Information is being collected from the States.

(c) The funds allocated to the States of Orissa and Gujarat under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the

Catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP) and Central Assistance to State Plan for Reclamation and stabilisation of Ravinous Area and Control of Shifting Cultivation Scheme for the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Scheme	Orissa	Gujarat
1.	CSS of RVP	772.52	387.42
2.	Ravine Reclamation	Nil	526.82
3.	Snifting Cultivation	280.00	Nil
Total		1052.52	914.24

(d) Information is being collected from the States.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Speaker, Sir,.....

MR. SPEAKER: Somnath ji, after Shri Nitish Kumar you may speak.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to an important issue. Recently, a fierce controversy was raging throughout the country over the sharing of cauvery water, particularly between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu States. But a more serious dispute than that of sharing of water of Sone river by Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The Centre is also involved. An agreement was reached through

which it was decided to release 5 million acre feet (m.a.f.) of water to Bihar on priority basis from Sone canals of Bihar which are more than 100 years old. But it is being violated. It has been violated for the last many years not only by the Government of Uttar Pradesh but by N.T.P.C. also.....(Interruptions). It was the perpetual right of Bihar to utilise its water. Today, the farmers of the Sone region are staging dharna at Boat club to register their protest against this violation and the matter is going to assume serious dimensions. Taking the m.a.f. factor into account, Bihar was to get a total of 5 m.a.f. of water on priority basis. A policy decision was taken at a Secretary-level meeting held in the Ministry of Irrigation in 1983 and it was decided that if any State utilises the water for other purposes except for irrigation and hydel projects, it will have to use water from its own share and 5 m.a.f. of water would continued to be supplied constantly to the remaining canals of Bihar at any cost. Only after that the water may be utilised for other purposes. But unfortunately, the Government of Uttar Pradesh was given the right to construct hydel power project by using water from the Rihand reservoir. But water is being used

there for thermal power. A thermal power plants of the capacity of 18,000 megawatt has already been set up in the Rihand valley which is using 1.2 m.a.f. of water of the share of Bihar and Bihar is facing shortage. Now the position is that the N.T.P.C. is planning to generate 22000 MW. electricity there. If the target is achieved, Bihar will not be able to get even a single drop of water from the Rihand reservoir and the cultivation of the entire Sone region, constituting one-fourth population of Bihar and known as rice bowl, would be ruined. It causes much concern in the entire Bihar and the farmers of Sone region are very much agitated.

Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Bansagar agreement concluded among the three States – Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh be implemented. The policy decision taken in the Secretary-level meeting on 4 June, 1983 be implemented. Otherwise the injustice being done to the farmers of Sone region can take a serious turn. It will again worsen the situation. The Government will be in trouble tomorrow in case a controversy like Karnataka and Tamil Nadu rages there. That is why I want to draw the attention of the Government to this issue and appeal, through you, to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of all the three States immediately. If the Government of Uttar Pradesh or the N.T.P.C. creates disputes, then the whole matter may be referred to any Tribunal or to the Supreme Court of India. I mean to say that the dispute may be settled with honour and patience. The Government should protect the perpetual right of Bihar on Sone water ensuring full share of water for Bihar in accordance with the provision of the agreement. Otherwise, the situation would worsen.....(*Interruptions*) Its responsibility will lie on the Central Government. Therefore, I would urge upon you to direct the Central Government to make a statement on the subject and take an initiative immediately.....(*Interruptions*).....It is

quite a serious matter. So, I would request that the Government should respond to it.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttak): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to know whether the Standing Committee of the NIC has met the Home Minister.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jena, please take your seat. Yesterday, I said that we were going to fix a discussion on this, after consulting all of you. Why do you worry about it?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Let me make my submission Sir. You have said that you would fix the date. We want to know whether the Members of the Standing Committee of the NIC and the Members of Parliament who went to Ayodhya have met the Minister of Home or not.

MR. SPEAKER: All that can be discussed in one go. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen, the matters sought to be raised by others may also be meaningful. Don't do like that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Are you not satisfied unless all of you speak together?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked you to speak one by one. But 5-6 Members are speaking at a time. In this way, how will I

regulate the House and whose speech would be listened by me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know whether there is tension outside or not. But you are creating tension here unnecessarily. Please sit down.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, I allowed preliminary discussion on it. All of you have made statements this way or that way. Then I have said that since you all are interested in discussing it, we would discuss this matter with all concerned and fix up the time for the debate. Today, again you raise the issue as if the other Members do not have anything to say.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We are saying about 'Sone' itself.....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know that you are not on the same point. Please sit down. I have allowed Shri Nitish Kumar to make a statement. I have told that since they are going to discuss Power, Water and Irrigation, this can also be discussed at that time. But in view of the fact that you are very much agitated and this being an important issue, I allowed him. Again you are prolonging it, as if the other hon. Member have nothing to say on other issues.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this time we are not going to have a debate on the Grants of the Ministry of Industry. But when the Parliament is in Session, a very important announcement has been made outside, not only in this country but abroad also. The

Finance Minister goes to Japan and makes an announcement on the dilution of the shareholdings in public sector undertakings to the extent of 49 per cent. He announced the Exit Policy which was adopted by this Government, when he was in Bangkok. Now he goes to Japan and to please his Japanese friends – I do not wish to use harsher words, so I would only say 'Japanese friends' – he announces the dilution of shareholdings in the public sector undertakings to the extent of 49 per cent.

Sir, there is something more to it. Mr. Thungon, the Minister of State for Industry, goes a step further. He holds a press conference on this very important issue and he says that a 49 per cent will be given to the foreign investors. While the Finance Minister says 'public at large', Shri Thungon says that this 49 per cent will be given to foreign investors for purpose of modernisation, etc. This is a very very serious matter. If such an important policy announcement is to be made outside this House, I do not know how we can function, how far this House is important and how well its status is being maintained by the Government. I oppose this very strongly. So far as our public sector undertakings are concerned, the Finance Minister has said that this would cover steel and telephone industries. Whichever industry we feel like offering, we can offer to the public. Therefore, let this Government say categorically that they do not, any longer, believe in public sector industries. Let them also say that the statement of Jawaharlal Nehru that the public sector would occupy the commanding heights of our economy no longer holds good, so far as this Government is concerned and so far as this country is concerned. We want a categorical statement on this issue.

Sir, I hope, you will express your annoyance as to how such important announcements are being made outside the House, when this House is sitting.