

abundant availability of hydrocarbon in South Bihar of Bihar State. So, there is a possibility of finding out gas and petroleum there. Has any proper survey been conducted by ONGC or not? What is the possibility and what is the time-bound programme by which this survey will be conducted by ONGC? If any petroleum is found, will it be sufficient to supplement the entire need of that State or not?

**SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR:** Petroleum is a national resource. The availability of petroleum varies from State to State depending on the prospectivity of an individual basin. These things are not decided nor are. The supply and demand has not been decided State-wise. As I said, West Bihar falls in the Ganga Valley Basin which has occurrence of hydrocarbon, but commercial possibility is yet to be established. We are continuing the exploration. We shall give due priority to exploration in the State of Bihar. In addition to the normal programme during the Eighth Plan, we have given four blocks from Bihar for participation in bidding by national and international oil companies; but the biddings have not been so far successful.

#### **National Watershed Development Programme for Rained Agriculture**

142. **SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:**  
**SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the National Watershed Development Programme for Rained Agriculture (NWDPPRA) Launched;

(b) the main objectived of the programme;

(c) the funds allocated to each State under this programme during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed implementation of the programme; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):** (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **STATEMENT**

(a) The National Watershed Development Programme for Rained Agriculture was launched in 1986-87. In 1990-91, the programme was restructured and the National Watershed Development Project for Rained Areas was launched.

(b) Annexure I is enclosed.

(c) Annexure II is enclosed.

(d) and (e). The project implementation is being reviewed regularly. As a result the pace of implementation has improved.

#### **ANNEXURE I**

I. Objectives of the National Watershed Development Programme for Rained Agriculture during VII Plan

(i) To conserve and upgrade crop lands and waste lands on watershed basis.

(ii) To develop and demonstrate location specific technologies for the proper soil and moisture conservation measures and crop production stabilisation measures required under different agro-climatic conditions.

(iii) To augment the fodder, fruit and

fuel resources of the village communities by use of appropriate alternate land use systems.

The Programme covered 99 districts in 16 States in areas where average annual rainfall is more than 750 mm. Funds under this programme were provided for treatment of arable land only. For non-arable land of the identified watersheds, funds were to come from other State and Central Schemes such as RLEGP, NREP, DPAP, DDP, etc.

2. In the VIIIth Plan National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRRA) endeavoured to achieve the twin objectives of sustainable production of bio-mass and restoration of ecological balance in the vast tracts of rainfed areas in the country specifically focussing on:-

(i) Conservation, upgradation and utilisation of natural endowments like land, water, plant, animal and human resources in a harmonious and integrated manner. This will aim at perpetual availability of food, fodder, fuel, fibre, timber and bio-mass for rural and cottage industries to meet the growing demands of human and livestock population through diversified land use

(ii) Generation of massive employment during the project period and regular employment after the project completion for

enhancing the employment opportunities in the backward rainfed areas to ensure livelihood security particularly for underprivileged sections of the rural population like small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, tribals, etc.

(iii) Improvement of production environment and restoration of ecological balance through scientific management of land and rainwater. In the process, soil moisture conservation, introduction of scientific production systems, network of runoff management structures and devices of recharge of ground water will ensure enhance availability of water for human and livestock drinking purposes, domestic consumption, life saving irrigation and raising of appropriate cash crops according to agro-climatic potentials.

(iv) Reduction of inequalities between irrigated and rainfed areas. Ultimately, stable production and processing of bio-mass would contribute towards better life in rural areas. This will reduce large-scale migration from rural areas to the cities.

(v) In addition to food, fuel and fodder the project would endeavour to enhance cash flow to the

rained farmers and landless agricultural labourers through increased casual employment, marketable surplus of agricultural and dairy produce, growing of cash crops like vegetables, coriander, cummin, medicinal plants,

etc. in a suitable areas.

All the three spatial components of watershed namely, arable land, non-arable land and drainage lines will be treated as one organic geo-hydrological entity for project planning and implementation to ensure sustainable use of natural resources.

## ANNEXURE-II

Sl. No	Name of the State	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		Funds released during 1990-91	Funds released during 1991-92	Fund allocated during 1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	565.007	1120.00	1138.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.000	18.00	18.00
3.	Assam	171.387	350.00	350.00
4.	Bihar	392.575	780.00	776.00
5.	Goa	8.200	17.00	18.00
6.	Gujarat	592.737	1180.00	1180.00
7.	Haryana	115.659	240.00	240.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39.530	80.00	80.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	34.112	60.00	60.00
10.	Karnataka	897.575	1420.00	1420.00

Sl. No	Name of the State	Funds released during 1990-91	Funds released during 1991-92	Fund allocated during 1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	153.900	300.00	300.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1260.160	2600.00	2600.00
13.	Maharashtra	1253.425	2590.00	2590.00
14.	Manipur	5.900	15.00	20.00
15.	Meghalaya	10.550	25.00	25.00
16.	Mizoram	4.900	10.00	10.00
17.	Nagaland	9.900	25.00	25.00
18.	Orissa	380.525	775.00	780.00
19.	Punjab	45.650	95.00	100.00
20.	Rajasthan	924.970	1940.00	1952.00
21.	Sikkim	4.950	25.96	40.00

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Funds released during 1990-91</i>	<i>Funds released during 1991-92</i>	<i>Fund allocated during 1992-93</i>
1	2	3	4	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	254.660	508.11	520.00
23.	Tripura	17.800	35.00	35.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	597.040	1150.00	1160.00
25.	West Bengal	273.731	540.00	560.00
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.350	0.465	0.50
27.	Daman & Diu	1.350	0.465	0.50
28.	Lakshadweep	-	-	0.50
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	0.50
Total:		8025.543	15900.00	16000.00

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The question is about the Watershed Development Programme. The Minister has given its objective and the objective is no doubt modest. But the main question was whether any monitoring has been conducted by the Government of India.

The objective as given in the answer is regarding reduction of inequalities between irrigated areas and nonirrigated areas. The project was started from 1986-87 and again it was restructured in 1990-91. My main question was whether any monitoring or any survey has been conducted by the Government of India and whether the main objective has been fulfilled or not? Whether the gap has been bridged between irrigated areas and non-irrigated areas? That was my main question and that has not been answered. May I know from the hon. Minister, as to what exactly the Government of India has done in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an on going process and we have to take in view all the other factors also. Our efforts is to create a congenial atmosphere for the farmer and to get something which is very much needed for the development of agriculture. Water is the most essential part of it and to conserve water we have to have this Watershed Programme.

Naturally, we have to monitor it, provide it and it is an on going process. It cannot be done in one or two years. It is a continuer process. We have allocated funds, we are giving the highest priority to it and we will realise it. We have given the statement alongwith the answer that each State has been given that money. We are trying to find out. This is a very huge task.

69.9 per cent land is rained and naturally you cannot take all of it because the resources are not available with us for them.

So we have to see that step by step we must provide that goal and bridge that gap.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The Statement of the Minister is general in nature. I wanted to know, whether during the last ten years, any evaluation has been conducted and the direction which has been given in the objective itself, whether you have achieved any tangible results in that direction.

My second supplementary and the main point is, as the Minister says, he is going to give maximum emphasis to this programme because the total non-irrigated area is more than 70 per cent. Officially, he says, 30 per cent has been irrigated but it is not exactly 30 percent, more than 70 per cent area is non-irrigated.

So you want to bridge the gap between the non-irrigated and irrigated area through this Programme only and the priority has been given. How much money have you given for that? You have given Rs. 150 crores during the last year. This year it is Rs 160 crores. You say that you are giving priority to it but when it come to allocation you are practically recurring the funds and that too to States like Orissa where the irrigated areas is hardly 15 per cent and non-irrigated area is more than 85 per cent.

In view of that, are you giving priority to those States where the non-irrigated area are more? Are you going to conduct a specific micro level monitoring or not?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Naturally you have to undertake a survey and you have to know what the results are. That is how you progress. For another five years you make plan. Here we have shown about 28 lak hectares of land which has to be covered under that programme. For that we are going to utilise Rs. 1,090 crores. I know the amount is not upto that mark but as the available resources are there we have to take out

that only. So, naturally we have tried. From last year we have progressed and again we are trying to do it. Not only this; I think the Rural Development Department has also the same type of a programme which will be augmenting the supplies.

**SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:** In view of the very laudable objectives of this programme, which has been renamed as the National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture, I would like to know, since the project was started six years back in 1986, whether in the regular reviews which the Minister indicated in his reply it has been brought out that some of the resource-rich States like Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Rajasthan, are underdeveloped as far as irrigation potentialities are concerned with degraded environment, where there are revering States and hilly mountainous terrain. Will he step up the expenditure on these States so that they will cover up to the national average because even 64 per cent of the available water flows down the sea without being augmented and conserved?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** I think the hon. Member's question has been answered. The money available at our command is limited. What we have done is we have a target for those States which are in need, just like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and others which have got scanty rainfall and are unarrable.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** I consider this to be a most important programme. But from the answer it is not clear whether the emphasis is given to those areas where this programme is urgently needed. There is another programme, the Drought Prone Area Programme and the allocation for that programme has been curtailed. May I know from the hon. Minister (a) what is the basis of allocation for Watershed Programme and (b) whether the Government will consider to

release more funds for those areas where already there is a programme, the Draught Prone Area Programme where the water which flows down to the sea can be utilised for irrigation purposes.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** We give it according to the ratio; the proportion of the land which is non-arable is taken into consideration and then we divide it. That is it. You can see the list which I have given, showing how much money we have allocated to each State and accordingly this is done.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** I am asking about DPAP programme. Why can you not release more funds for that?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** This is into that programme.

**DR. B. G. JAWALI:** For all this ambitious Watershed Development Programme there are so many sources from the State, like the RLGP, NREP, DPAP and all sorts of things, including the dry land development and various schemes are there, clubbing all together. To quote one sample, for example, for the last one decade we have been propagating widely for the growing of *subabul*. It is being used for fodder, fuel as well timber. It is said actually and thousands and lakhs of hectares of this crop has been brought under this cultivation. Of course, it is a rained area. But so far, after ten years, nothing has been heard and there is no follow-up action. What is exactly being done? My concern is for the very people who have undertaken it, the agriculturists, who are put to lot of hardships. Whatever that has been promised by the department and the Government has not come true. Has the Government taken up follow-up action and studied what exactly happened to the people who have grown this on their land?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** sir, this is an environmental programme. This adds to a



firm and friendly environment. It is something which gives soil structure and also fuel. And it grows very fast. This programme is under renovation and also it is a fodder programme. The people will realise after they have taken up the farming of subabul; whether it is a productive or non productive. The people always take what is profitable and the people just reject what is not profitable. I think it is good. So far, I have not heard anything which is against it.

### Sarkaria Commission

143. SHRITARIT BARAN TOPDAR:  
SHRI SUDARSAN RAY  
CHAIDHURI:

Will The Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to implement the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Government considered the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission's Report and decided in September, 1990 that the recommendations as such may be placed before the Inter-State Council. Accordingly the report was taken up for discussion on in the first meeting of the Inter-State Council on 10th October, 1990. After discussion it was decided that a Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council be constituted to examine the recommendations and give concrete suggestions thereon. So far four meeting of the Sub-Committee has considered all the recommendations, these would be taken up in a full meeting of the Inter-State Council. The Government would take decision on various recommendations after views of the Inter-State Council become available.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, the Sarkaria Commission was not set up as a result of the pious wish of the then Congress-I Government and the Congress-I Party. It was set up as a result of a long drawn movement by the Left Parties and the democratic parties in the country for decentralisation of power.. (*Interruptions*). It was set up as a result of a long drawn movement. The Congress-I Government was bound to set up this Commission because of the overt and covert support of the Congress-I ruled States even at that time. Now after the Commission has submitted its recommendations, we find that the action taken by the Government, as has been stated just now, is by reluctance and procrastination on the part of the Government. I want to know as to what has been the first-hand reaction. On the basis of which the Government has set up a Sub Committee for their recommendation in the Inter-State Council. There must have been some reaction. And that reaction must be expressed before the country because the entire country is involved in this controversy and conflict.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I would like to deny first the insinuation which the hon. Member has made. It was unwarranted and not necessary at all. If the hon. Member is interested in finding out what action has been taken by the Sub-Committee I have got full information with me. There are 247 recommendations, which have been made by Justice Sarkaria. And we have been able to consider about 122 recommendations. Might be in one or two meetings, we will be able to finalise the report of the Sub Committee of the State Council and thereafter it will go to the Inter-State Council. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, let the Sub Committee report be laid on the Table of the House... (*Interruptions*)