

In the answer, the course for programme staff has been mentioned - the AIDS Awareness Training Course. I am happy that they are giving awareness about the AIDS. I would like to know through you whether the Ministry will start the health programme, the literacy programme and the population control programmes in the training course for the programme staff.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : It is a very good suggestion. As I have already said, I will convey the views of the hon. Members to the Empowered committee. Apart from this, the programmes on rural development and the health care sanitation are some of the important ones. We would like to have all these activities. It all depends on the technical experts and our technical capabilities at the moment and the availability of time. We would like to include all these programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : I would like to thank the hon. Minister for opening these Training Centres in cities other than Metropolises viz. Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Shillong, Cuttack and Lucknow. Will the hon. Minister kindly arrange to set up a training institute in Patna which is a backward area of Bihar?

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, as far as giving assurance is concerned, I will have to look into it. These are all historical facts. I agree, training institutions have to come up.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) In reply to a question about the languages and the cultures of the various regions, the hon. Minister had stated that a separate reply would be given. My question is whether steps would be taken to implement the Prasar Bharati. Bill in letter and spirit in his department?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know whether it arises out of this question.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : It does not arise out of this question.

[Translation]

Safety of DAMS

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*422. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank in its report has pointed out that 25 dams in India are unsafe;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the names of those dams;

(c) the reaction of the Government there to; and

(d) the concrete measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) No report has been received from the World Bank in the Ministry of Water Resources in this regard. However, evaluation of safety, aspects taken up by the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu has indicated structural and hydrological deficiencies in 33 dams. Central Water Commission has also completed hydrological reviews in 25 of these 33 dams.

(b) Names of the dams are given as under :

S.No.	State	Name of dam included in Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project
(1)	Madhya Pradesh	(i) Pagara (ii) Pillowa (iii) Kotwal (iv) Gandhi Sagar (v) Tigra (vi) Kaketo (vii) Bama (viii) Aoda
(2)	Orissa	(i) Hirakud (ii) Darjang (iii) Ghodahada (iv) Soroda (v) Bhanjanagar (vi) Behera (vii) Galianala (viii) Jharna (ix) Alikuan
(3)	Rajasthan	(i) Ranapratap Sagar (ii) Jawahar Sagar (iii) Kota Barrage (iv) Parbati

- (v) Matri Kundia
- (vi) Alnia
- (vii) Galwa

(4) Tamil Nadu

- (I) Periyar
- (II) Kodaganar
- (III) Sathanur
- (IV) Pechiparai
- (v) Uppar
- (vi) Ponnaniar
- (vii) Gomukhinadhi
- (viii) Vidur
- (ix) Manimuthar

(c) and (d). Following measures have been taken by the Government of India in this regard :

(1) Constitution of the National Committee on Dam Safety in 1987 with a view to overseeing dam safety activities in various states and to suggest improvement to bring these in line with the latest state-of-art technology consistent with the Indian conditions.

(2) Formulation of a Dam Safety Act for proper surveillance, inspection and maintenance of large dams in the country ensure their safety. A draft Dam Safety Act has been circulated to various States in January, 1988 for comments. Replies from some States are still due.

(3) Central Water Commission has issued guidelines to all the States for safety inspection of dams in June, 1987 and also circulated related literature to all the States.

(4) A World Bank assisted Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project with the objective of improving the safety of 33 identified dams in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu has been taken up in the year 1991-92. The project is to consider remedial measures which *inter-alia* include structural strengthening of dams, augmenting spillway capacity, formulation of emergency action plans, inundation maps and proper warning systems to be provided at every dam for the safety of downstream areas, at a total estimated cost of Rs. 456 crores. Out of this, the Central Government is spending Rs. 32 crores for providing institutional strengthening and the balance of Rs. 424 crores is to be met by the States with the World Bank assistance. The scheme is expected to be completed by 1997.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply is not only incomplete but misleading also. The reply is that no report has been received from the World Bank in his Ministry in regard to deficiencies in dams. My question is whether a report has been received in his Ministry. My question is whether the World Bank

has prepared any report in this respect which includes the report prepared by the World Bank for its internal use. My question is based on the Press reports to the effect that the World Bank had conducted an internal study which mentioned *inter-alia* that most of the dams in India are deficient and are not being over seen properly. The Government have made no mention of the report and the reply given by the Government is also amusing. The types of dams in Madhya Pradesh exist only in four States i. e Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Are there no other dams which need protection? Are steps not being taken for their safety? As per the reply, the National Committee On Dam Safety was constituted in 1987. It has further been stated that a draft Dam Safety Act has been circulated to various States in 1988 for their comments; it is now 1995 and the comments are still awaited. There has been no follow up action on the part of the Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question needs more serious attention.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good question. I would like you to elaborate it as much as you want.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : As regards Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, a World Bank assisted Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project with the objective of improving the safety of 33 identified, dams in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu has been taken up in the year 1991-92. But no information has been given about the present states of the project. In the reply there is no mention of the outcome of the steps taken and the condition of the dams in other States Why has the Internal News of the World Bank not been considered? Government should not take the plea as refuge that it has not received the report of the World Bank, it must tap other sources of information also

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stick to my reply that no report has been received in this regard from the World Bank. But, I will explain how the World Bank has come into the picture. In 1975, the Irrigation Ministers' Conference had recommended that some steps should be taken for dam safety in this country. As a result of that, the Dam Safety Organization has been set up at the Government of India level in CWC in 1979. The States have also been requested to set up similar committees in respect of dam safety. In response to our request, 12 States have set up the committees. In these 12 States, 95 per cent of the dams are located. Other States have not set up committees. Four States have identified 33 projects and not 25 projects. They have sent reports to us and have expressed their willingness to take up the work. On the basis of that, this project has been posed to the World Bank. The

World Bank and IBRD have agreed to a credit of nearly Rs. 456 crore. On the basis of this, we have prepared plans for four States and these plans are being implemented. There are different stages of implementation of this plan. Firstly, they identify the deficiencies. Secondly, they prepare the software about what exactly is to be done in respect of each dam and then they implement the plan. The first two stages have been completed any they are now about to launch actual implementation of the dam safety measures. So, it will take another two years. We hope to complete quite a lot of work in these two years. Regarding other States, we are pursuing with them. Some States have sent preliminary reports and some States are yet to send their reports. The Dam Safety Organization in CWC is pursuing it.

In regard to the second question put up by Shri Vajpayeeji that we have not done anything on Dam Safety Act, I want to submit that we have circulated this draft in 1988. The States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Orissa, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan have agreed for Central legislation and the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka have not agreed for this legislation. Replies from Maharashtra and West Bengal are awaited.

Sir, I requested the Ministry to remind these two States and call for their remarks. Once their remarks come, we will refer it to the Ministry of Law whether we can go ahead with the legislation in spite of objection by four States and if not, what is to be done, We will take necessary steps for bringing this legislation before Parliament as soon as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (a) of my question has still not been answered. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the Internal Memorandum of the World Bank in which it has been mentioned.

[English]

Over two-third of the dams in India have deficiencies in regard to their capabilities of handling the appropriate magnitude of flood?

[Translation]

Even if the World Bank had not circulated its Internal Memorandum, a copy thereof could have been procured because it had received wide coverage in the Press. The Government should have taken into account the Internal Memorandum of the Bank before drafting its reply. In the Memorandum apprehensions have been expressed about the safety of the Hirakund dam and Gaudhi Sagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh. What is the reaction of Government thereto?

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : This newspaper report arose out of a mid-term review conducted by the

Dam Safety Organisation along with the World Bank in 1994 December. They have reviewed the progress of the dam safety project. Out of that some newspapers have filed some reports. There is no need for them to send a copy to us; we are aware of it. We are part and parcel of the whole exercise. The Government of India is a part of the exercise. We are making use of the World Bank aid and we are reviewing it and we are getting their comments. At this stage the comments...

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, is the reply satisfactory?

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I am prepared to answer any question.

MR. SPEAKER : If such a report has appeared in the newspaper and created misapprehension in the minds of the people, will it not be in the fitness of things to procure the report, study it and dispel the misapprehension or give the correct picture?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : We will get a copy of the so called report, study it and give a contradiction.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not yet asked my second question. You had told me that I could ask that question in detail.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it a fact that the agitation against Tehri Dam is again gaining momentum? Is it a fact that the construction work on this Dam is standstill? For how long will this problem remain in an uncertain state; some decision should be taken in this regard? Besides Tehri Dam, there are some other controversial dams about which some final decision needs to be taken. The present uncertainty should end.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : The subject of construction of Tehri Dam is under the Ministry of Power. There is a separate organisation called Tehri Hydro Electric Development Corporation for which a separate question may kindly be put to the Minister of Power.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : In the reply to part (a) of the question it has been stated that an evaluation of the safety aspects of the dams was taken up by the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. I would like to know when was this evaluation undertaken? But this evaluation was undertaken only in respect of 3 States; there are dams in other States also.

In Uttar Pradesh dams were built in the First Five Year Plan. What steps are contemplated for their safety. The life of these dams was limited. The State Governments lack the resources to ensure their safety with the latest technology. Do the Government propose to undertake some steps to strengthen these dams, which have become outdated? There is need to undertake periodical evaluation. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when was the last evaluation made and whether entire country was covered? In case the entire country was covered, a statement about the reports from the other States should be laid on the Table of the House. A draft Dam Safety Act was circulated to the States in 1988 for their comments. After seven years you are not able to make public their reports because of adverse comments. The Bill should be referred to the standing Committee so that it is passed by the House at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I have already answered the first part of the question of the hon. Member in my reply. As far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, so far we have not received any report from Uttar Pradesh in this regard. As soon as any report is received, we will take action. As I said, the States have got their own dam safety organisations which conduct preliminary studies and report to us. We are only the coordinating agency and we are not providing any funds directly. We are giving only some institutional support. Even in the four States the Government of India is spending Rs. 32 crore against the total cost of Rs. 454 crore. Whatever support that we are giving is only the institutional support. Basically it is the owner of the dam, that is the State Government who have to come up with a proposal and then get it approved. We have already approached the World Bank. The World Bank has agreed to give the money. Similarly if some other States also come forward, we can provide funds through other sources.

As regards the second part of the question, that is referring to the Standing Committees, it arises only after introducing it in the House. Since the Bill has not been introduced, the question of referring it to the Standing Committee does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us understand the spirit, because if the Bill was introduced in 1988 and if it is pending upto this time, he wants to know whether you are going to take expeditious steps or not.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, it was not introduced. It was only in draft stage and was circulated. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know that as a lot of time has already elapsed and this is a very important subject, would you take expeditious steps or not.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, we will take expeditious steps.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV : Sir, according to our engineers and designs, how many major dams are there in India whose lifetime is nearing completion or expired and what are the plans that the Government of India is initiating to make good such dams whose lifetime is expiring?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, the total number of dams which are considered as major dams is 3,596 the height of which is more than 15 metres. 695 dams are under construction. As regards the information regarding completion of the age of the dams, it is not available with us. I will collect the information and it will be supplied to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to raise the issue of Tehri Dam... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It does not come out of this.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, it comes out of this,

[Translation]

Because my question relates to the reply given by the hon. Minister in which he had stated.

[English]

"No report has been received from the World Bank in the Ministry of Water Resources. However, evaluation of safety aspects taken up by the states. ..."

[Translation]

The reply covers only four States whereas the issues was not limited to only four States. My question, therefore, is quite relevant. It was at your initiative that steps were taken to solve the problem of the Tehri Dam when the issue was raised in this very House in 1992. You persuaded Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna to break his fast unto death. The fast had lasted 40-50 days and it was decided at that time that a Committee would be constituted to study the entire gamut of the problem. At that time this subject was not under the Ministry of Power. The Ministry of Water Resources was a party to the discussion. I would like to know why the Committee was not constituted and why construction work on the Tehri Dam has started? The opposition to the Tehri Dam is not something new. Even the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had expressed her apprehension about this dam and had ordered a probe into the issue. The Committee had recommended that this dam should not be built. Another Committee was also constituted which endorsed the recommendation of the earlier Committee. The Ministry of Environment also held the same view. The contractor.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good question but is now being restricted to one dam only.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It is a serious issue and Shri Bahuguna is again sitting on a dharna. The issue would be aggravated if he undertook a fast unto death. Will you please direct the Government to find a final solution to the Tehri Dam issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If you have the information you can give. Otherwise, you can say....

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, so far as the construction of the Tehri Dam is concerned, the Government of India are very clear in their policy and they are going ahead with the construction of the dam.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have observed that dam safety is very important, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not restrict this question to the States or to dams because it is a very important question. It has to be taken in that perspective.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Now, whatever you are proposing in the legislation will not take care of that. I am straightaway putting this question about the Hirakud dam. There is a crack in the Hirakud dam. And that crack has really caused serious concern in the State of Orissa. I would like to know whether the State Government has come up with any proposal before the Central Water Commission and the Ministry of Water Resources or not. What is the reaction of the Government of India for the safety of the Hirakud dam? What step is the Government of India taking with the assistance of the World Bank? I want to know this because the Hirakud dam is one of the biggest dams in Asia.

MR. SPEAKER : He will just say, 'I do not have the information with me, now'

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : He has already mentioned about the Hirakud dam in his answer.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not go from general to specific. Please come with your question; why to waste time?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, for your information, the Hirakud dam is one of the biggest dams in Asia. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said that when questions of this nature are put, you should put the entire country before your eyes and help the Government as well as the Parliament to formulate ideas and policies to tackle the entire issue. You are just shifting from the general question to the particular question and he would just get up and say, 'I do not have the information'.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : There is a report that there is a crack in the Hirakud dam. It is a concern for the

entire country. I want to know from the Minister for Water Resources what exact steps they have taken in this direction, for the safety of the Hirakud dam.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I need a separate notice for this, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kartikeswar Patra.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : A separate question is not required for this because the Hirakud dam is not like all the other dams. It is one of the biggest dams in the entire Asia. You should not just bypass the question by saying that I need another separate question on this.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thirty-three dams have been identified as having deficiency of structural and hydrological techniques. For this, the Government is spending Rs. 32 crore and the States, with the World Bank assistance will incur an expenditure of Rs. 456 crore. I want to know from the Minister categorically whether it has been assessed and estimated properly that thirty-three dams have structural deficiency and hydrological deficiency; how much expenditure will be involved; and whether the money sanctioned for that would meet the estimated cost? If so, why would it not be completed? Why would not all the deficiencies be met by this amount within the stipulated period? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please put a concrete question and get a concrete reply.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : My humble submission is this. I want to know categorically as to when will all these deficiencies in the 33 dams be rectified and when will the people feel that all these dams are safe from the point of view of safety. That is my question. I want to know whether the Government will also assess all the dams in the country and estimate as to how much money will also assess all the dams in the country and estimate as to how much money will be involved and how the entire fund will be met.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have identified the main category of deficiency. One is hydrological and the other is structural. In the structural aspect, there are so many further divisions. Hydrological aspect, of course, is mainly to assess as to whether the dam is capable of meeting the highest flood level. The hydrological studies are being conducted by the CWC in respect of all the projects in India as a routine exercise. They have already done for about 45 dams; including these 33. A permanent organisation, in the CWC, headed by Chief Engineer does the hydrological studies of all dams and it is a continuous process; it is going on regularly. Whenever anything is wrong, they bring it to the notice of the State Governments.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : My particular question was about the entire money which was sanctioned.

MR. SPEAKER : No. That particular question is becoming amorphous question now!

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply had stated that hydrological deficiencies were discovered in 33 dams and out of them deficiencies were removed in respect of 25 dams and review in respect of 8 dams is incomplete. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the number of dams in respect of which review is still to be undertaken.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are there any dams which are not reviewed for safety and if there are any which are not reviewed or examined by the experts, by what time, it would be done?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I have submitted, Sir, that it is a continuous process. We have already done that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Sir, in the light of your guidance, I want to put a question to the hon. Minister. This is a very serious thing that structural and hydrological deficiencies have been found out. Thirty three dams have been identified only in four States and there may be other dams which have got the same kind of deficiency. The Government has ultimately to seek the assistance of the World Bank to identify these deficiencies and also to seek the financial assistance. May I know — in the case of the other 600 dams which are going to be built — taking lessons from these structural and hydrological deficiencies, may be there may be default in the project reports or in design, whether the Government will take care in future so that these 600 dams do not suffer from the same kind of deficiency; and whether the Government will take necessary steps. I want to know this.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : It is a good suggestion from the hon. Member. We will examine as to what is wrong.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : My question is a general one. But in order to ask it as an effective one, I want to go to specific.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not go to the specific question. Otherwise, he will just get up and say that he does not have the information.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : It is not a specific question, Sir, it is a general question. It was in view of the October 1991 earthquake in Uttarkashi that the whole debate on Tehri dam came up. Experts and specialists these days are giving us so much warning about the environmental consequences of Mega dams. May I know whether the Government would shift the focus of its policy from Mega dams to mini and micro hydel schemes?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, subsequent to the occurrence of the Uttarkashi earthquake, a review of the works was undertaken by the National Committee on Seismic Design Parameters constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources and the design of the Dam was reviewed and endorsed.

[Translation]

Installation of Closed Circuit Cameras in Jails

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423. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the State Governments for installation of closed circuit cameras to watch the activities of the prisoners in the jails under the scheme of 'Modernisation of Prison Administration';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government there on; and

(d) the funds provided/proposed to be provided to the State Governments for the purpose?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Tripura have included closed circuit cameras/T.Vs as part of their proposals for financing under the scheme of 'Modernisation of Prison Administration'.

(c) and (d). A sum of Rs. 48 lakhs has been released to these State Governments for the purchase of close circuit Television/Cameras.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, has work on the installation of come as started in the five states mentioned by the hon. Minister in his reply to part (a) and (b) of the question? How many persons have been trained in handling this work and whether there has been any improvement in the efficiency of the jail administration?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Yes, Sir.

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the jails lack essential facilities. I would like to know whether such facilities would be provided in the jails of Rajasthan where terrorists have been lodged?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : I cannot claim that the conditions in the jails are satisfactory but in order to effect-improvement at the national level...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : His question is not about improvement in the jails in general but about the jails in Rajasthan where terrorists have been lodged.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : The grants provided to the States for the purpose of jails administration cover this aspect also.

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : What is being done for Rajasthan?