

they have any connection with the secret service agency?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: The number which the hon. Member has given is not correct. They form a part of the party which had gone purely for tourist purposes. The Government does not have any other information. But it is a fact that the Israeli gentlemen showed exemplary courage by snatching the gun from the terrorists and killed two of them

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, my question has not been answered. Would the hon. Minister explore the possibility of involvement of any Israeli secret service agency in this incident?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: No please

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it futile to discuss about Tourism in Kashmir until the Government succeeds in restoring normalcy there. For the last 25 days, we have been reading in newspapers about certain steps taken by the Government in order to restore normalcy in Kashmir at political level. In this context, it is being said that Dr. Farooq Abdullah went to Srinagar and stayed there for three days. After his return, some more talks were held. In this context, he invited the Prime Minister and others to his house for a dinner and discussed this issue. As it is said that some concrete steps have been taken in order to resolve the Kashmir problem. So, I would like to know the concrete steps taken by the Government during the last 25 days to restore normalcy there so that the economy of Kashmir may be brought back on the track.

[*English*]

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: This question will have to be tackled on both the levels. One is to take stringent measures against the terrorists who are involved. Do not allow them to cross. If they are able to cross, ne-

cessary action should be taken to find out where their hide-outs are and raid them. That is one part of it. Another will be to start the political dialogue. Whether it is Farooq Abdullah or anybody else, certainly the political discussion will have to be started. I think, the hon. Member himself had done the same thing when he was Incharge of Kashmir Affairs.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will it have to be started or have you started it after assuming the office?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: It has been started already.

Sharing of Yamuna Waters

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the issue regarding sharing of Yamuna waters amongst the concerned States was considered in a meeting of the Standing Committee on inter-State issues in Water Resources held in September, 1990.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government recently held discussions with the representatives of the concerned States on this regard, and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was decided in the meeting of the Standing Committee that the Chairman, Central Water Commission would convene meetings with the representatives of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh,

Rajasthan Haryana and the Union Territory of Delhi to imalise the figures of their committed utilisation of Yamuna waters, that the Minister of Water Resources would thereafter hold discussions separately with the Chief Ministers and that the matter would be brought up again before the Standing Committee with a view to arrive at a consensus on the allocation of Yamuna Waters.

(c) and (d) In pursuance of the decision taken in the Standing Committee the Chairman Central Water Commission had discussions first separately and then jointly with the representatives of the States. No consensus however could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation and it was agreed that the Chairman Central Water Commission may submit his report to the Ministry on the basis of these discussions with the States. His report was received three days ago.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA Mr Speaker Sir through you I would like to submit that 46 per cent land out of 60 per cent land of the Rajasthan State constitutes desert area and it is spread over 11 districts of the State. The 5 per cent of the India's population reside in the State but the whole State of Rajasthan has been getting only one per cent water. There are neither perennial rivers in the State nor any other resource of water. There is always insufficient rain and the situation of drought in the State is very common. Hence even drinking water is not available there and we have to depend on the neighbouring States for that. So I want to know from the Minister of Water Resources whether a technical committee was set up under the supervision of the Central Water Commission if so in which year? My another question

MR SPEAKER You can ask only one question.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA My second question is as to

how many times and when the meetings were held between the State Chief Ministers and the authorities of the Union Ministry of Water Resources and when the meeting was held to discuss the shortage of water in Rajasthan? And my third question is whether reports of each meeting held with the States have been sent to the Central Water Commission?

MR SPEAKER It is not the way to put questions. You can ask like this whether the report has been received or not. It is the important part.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA All right I put my question like this.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA Mr Speaker Sir this is true that there is acute shortage of drinking and water for irrigation in Rajasthan. So Rajasthan also had been included in the discussion regarding the division of water of the Yamuna. I would like to say that many other committees also have been constituted besides the one mentioned by the hon. Member and discussions have been continued in this regard. Keeping in view the geographic condition of Rajasthan more water from Yamuna cannot be provided to Rajasthan unlike other States such as Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Therefore we are trying our best to give maximum water to Rajasthan with the consent of other States. But unless the States which have a natural right on this water are themselves prepared for this we cannot give this water on the terms put forward by the hon. Member and in the quantity they desire. I may give full details of the efforts we have made and the meetings that have been held in this regard. If you kindly allow I may read it out or lay it on the table if you so direct.

MR SPEAKER Please lay it on the Table if it is lengthy.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA Mr Speaker Sir I would like to submit that this matter should

not be made complicated by referring it to a committee because it is the question of water and it concerns the whole State which is completely a desert and where only one per cent water is available. He has stated in his reply "no consensus, however, could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation and it was agreed that the Chairman, Central Water Commission may submit his report to the Ministry on the basis of these discussions with the States. His report was received three days ago."

I would like to ask a specific question from the hon. Minister. There has been no rain in Rajasthan so far this year. No river flows through the State. The entire State is experiencing severe drought. There is no doubt about the fact that the State is very rich in mineral resources. Please say this much only as to the time by which you will be able to take a final decision in this regard. Will it take so much time that three Lok Sabha elections may be over or it will be done in three years. Please give a specific date. However, I would like to tell you that if this request is not conceded, I, along with other hon. Members of the State, would launch a hungerstrike and hold demonstration against the Government.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have deep sympathy with the hon. Member and the people of Rajasthan. The difficulties, which he has narrated, are genuine and there is no exaggeration at all. He has depicted a correct picture. If the hon. Member wants me to fix an exact time or specific date for this, then he should first obtain the consent of the Government of his own State and other State Governments which are concerned with Yamuna waters. Please let them give me an assurance that whatever decision I take, they will abide by it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole State of Rajasthan is experiencing drought. All of us, irrespective of our

party affiliation, are very much distressed over it. At least please take steps to supply water at the appropriate time. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Sir, Haryana is a concerned State. There is a great difficulty faced by the farmers of Haryana. We have not been able to get the share of the water of SYL canal since 1955 and there is a great difficulty about the water of Yamuna also, as we are not getting our share. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister what is the share of Haryana in the Yamuna river water. We have a share, which we are not getting. Then, is there any deadline fixed by the Government for the completion of this project so that we can get our share?

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, an agreement in this regard had been signed in 1954 before Haryana came into existence. Under the agreement Haryana gets considerable quantity of water from the Yamuna today. So far as the question of fixing a time frame for arranging a new agreement in this connection is concerned, there are conflicting claims from the concerned States and it is very difficult to meet them. These demands cannot be considered because they are four times more than their actual requirements and there is no consensus among the States over it. So, we are making our efforts to bring about an agreement among them over this issue. As soon as we succeed in our efforts, we shall distribute water among the States accordingly.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of water in Delhi because it is not getting its due share of water from Yamuna Canal from Haryana these days. I had made a submission in this regard. Total expenditure made on the construction of this canal was borne by Delhi but it is fully managed by the Haryana Government. So,

they supply water to Delhi according to their will. They supply water when they wish and stop supply in the same manner leaving Delhiites to die of thirst. Now a stage has come when the Bhakra-Beas Management Board has recommended that water should be supplied to Delhi but Haryana is not complying with that. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a Yamuna Management Authority comprising of a representative from Delhi would be constituted so that the Delhiites may not have to be on the mercy of Haryana for getting their due share of water. Hence, Delhi must have its representative in the said Canal Authority. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps he is going to take in this regard so that Delhi could be saved from drought.

MR. SPEAKER: Please state whether there is any such scheme?

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: The statement of the hon. Member that Delhi is on the mercy of Haryana for supply of water is not correct. It tantamounts to an allegation that Haryana is not supplying water to Delhi. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: In regard to the question of supply of water to Delhi raised by the hon. member, I may tell him that I have talked to the Chief Minister of Haryana in this connection. But it is not correct to say that Haryana does not supply water to Delhi. *(Interruptions)* Please listen to the whole thing first. We get water from there, but not according to our requirement. I had requested him to increase the quantity of water a little more so that water could be supplied to Delhi in accordance with their requirement. The hon. Member's suggestion of constituting a River Valley Authority is very good and we would like to take further steps in this direction.

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just like the plea made by the hon. Member from Rajasthan that his State should

be given water from Yamuna, Haryana too requires water both for drinking as well as agriculture purposes. It too depends on the Yamuna for water. Some time back there was the Kisau Dam Scheme involving the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. There was a proposal that the water of Yamuna which goes waste during the rainy season would be stored through Kisau Dam so as to utilise the same at the time of need. May I know the stage at which this scheme is pending?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I held discussions with the Chief Minister of Haryana on a number of issues including that of 'Kisau Dam' but no agreement could be arrived at in respect of this dam.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister stated in his reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question, it was decided to convene a meeting of the representatives of the States in this regard. But no consensus could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation. I would like to know the points on which a consensus could not be reached. Due to this we people have been clamouring for water for the last several years. Please let us know as to the time by which a consensus could be reached at the Cabinet level in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that nothing can be said with certainty about the time...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He says what were the points on which agreement was required.

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: The main reason of not reaching an

agreement on this issue is that there is a big difference between the figures of committed utilisation and non-committed utilisation. Unless we solve this issue through a consensus, no such agreement, as the hon. Member wants, is possible. For this we will take political initiative and solve it at the political level.

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to know the time by which a consensus could be reached on it and the time by (*Interruptions*) which you will be able to finalise it.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that nothing can be said about time.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government has stalled the implementation of the all decisions regarding distribution of water of the Yamuna river under pressure from Bangladesh. I would like to know about the present position of the proposal of constructing Panchanad Dam that was submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government to the Central Government. I want to know whether Government of India has approved this proposal or not? If not, what are the reasons therefor?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should take pride that the Central Government does not do anything under anybody's pressure. Reply in respect of the project, he has mentioned, has already been given. All these issues have been discussed but for want of a consensus no progress could yet be made in regard thereto.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that the report was

received three days ago. In the situation in Rajasthan existing now, we cannot afford it to be delayed in the manner that he has suggested. Why does he not lay the Report on the Table of the House so that we can all see it and why does he not make some kind of commitment on it? It cannot be delayed in this manner.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I agree with the hon. Member that we cannot delay it, but the delay is not being caused by our inaction. It is being caused by the various conflicting claims of the States and by absence of an agreement by them. We are trying our best to see that an agreement is reached, and as soon as we are able to get the agreement, we shall make progress in this matter.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ayub Khan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AYUB KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that as there is an acute water-crisis in Rajasthan today and the Rajasthan Government has sought approval from the Central Government regarding many water resources schemes such as the Yamuna-Ganga water scheme, the Thein Dam Scheme and Indira Gandhi Scheme, so, I want to know the time by which Central Government will give its clearance to the Rajasthan Government for these schemes? Will an immediate decision be taken in this regard? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.