

Schemes are abandoned midway. The benefits do not reach the real persons. Let him cite one case where irregularities were detected and causes ascertained.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : This is the question. Let him say if a single case has ever been detected.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker Sir, at our level, no target is fixed for pump sets.

We are giving subsidy to the State Governments in lump sum. In turn, they distribute the amount on the basis of poverty in a particular district.

We are not maintaining the details about subsidy given for pumpsets...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : This is not the answer.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : In each State, there are governing bodies at the State level, district level and block level, respectively. Under the District Rural Development Agency programme, a governing body at the district level consists of all MPs, MLAs and local representatives. They prepare the plan and have details about how many pumpsets can be allotted. Based on that, we can have a review in the DRDA meetings...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to answer it.

Drinking Water in Western Rajasthan

*182. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been carried out and villages and habitations identified to provide safe drinking water within 1.6 K.M. in desert of Western Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the schemes/proposals formulated/ approved and amount involved?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir. As a part of an all India exercise, the Government of Rajasthan had conducted a survey in 1993 to identify habitations for providing safe drinking water. The State Government is conducting yet another survey to include left over habitations. This survey is expected to be completed by 31.12.1996.

(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

According to the survey conducted during 1991-93 and validated in 1994, there were 16,988 No covered (NC), 18,942 Partially covered (PC) and 45,843 Fully

Covered (FC) habitations. Out of total of 30846 habitations in Western Rajasthan as on 30th September, 1996, 23438 habitations have been covered with safe drinking water facilities. an amount of Rs.5392 crore has been allocated to cover 2460 habitations in Western Rajasthan with safe drinking water facilities during 1996-97. It has been decided that all the NC/PC (0-10 lpcd) category habitations in the entire country including Rajasthan should be covered by 1997-98. The State Government of Rajasthan has been requested to prepare an action plan to cover all the NC and PC (1-10 lpcd) by 31.12.96.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has replied to the question and laid a statement on the Table of the House which is very wishy - washy. It does not deal with the requirement and the ground realities. Therefore, I request that he should correct the reply.

Now, I come to the problem of water supply in the desert area. My constituency consists of 70,000 sq. km. in area. It is not only the biggest constituency in India but also in the world. as on today, the people there are fetching water from a distance of more than 20 km. whereas the norm is 1.6 km.

The sources of underground water are also very limited. There is no surplus water. For most of the time, drought is there. Even this year, there is drought in this area. Most of the schemes that have been executed in the last 15-20 years have become defunct.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question. Your two minutes are getting over.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : As far as allocation of funds is concerned, there is no problem. But these are not being spent by them. So, what are steps being taken by your Ministry to ensure that the water sources are available within a distance of 1.6 km. from Villages and habitations by 1997 as per the Action Plan chalked out in the Conference of Chief Minister held on 4th and 5th July, 1996?

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 4th July, the decision arrived at was to provide potable drinking water to all NC villages and partially covered villages up to 1-10 litres. You submit the action plan and everything. Based on that, we will release the funds.

The first priority out of the seven basic minimum priorities of our United Front Government is to provide drinking water throughout the country to all NC villages. Based on that, this year, under ARWSP for Rajasthan, we have allotted Rs.103 crore. The State of Rajasthan has also pooled Rs.144 crore under the MNP. When both the amounts are put together, Rs.250 crore will be available for Rajasthan during this year to cover all the NC villages.

Sir, the Central Government has released Rs. 1.3 crore. Out of Rs.250 crore, they have spent Rs.100

crore so far. The remaining Rs.150 crore would be spent by them within the next five months. They are also preparing an Action Plan. One more survey has been conducted by the State Government. The remaining uncovered villages would be included in the Action Plan which is under preparation. We would release funds based on that Action Plan.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, as I mentioned before, there is no dearth of funds. I met the Principal Chief Secretary of the State and he told me that they did not want money but they only did not have the infrastructure like engineers, staff and other allied facilities of implementation of the programmes. So, what is happening on the ground is that they are not able to execute and implement the programmes.

Sir, the Centre is giving money and after that they are just keeping quiet and now they are asking for the Action Plan. That is not the answer to my question. They are giving the money for this and it is also the top priority of the Prime Minister. But it is not being implemented. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken by the Centre to ensure proper monitoring of the programme so that it could be implemented.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Why do you not ask the hon. Minister to visit your constituency?

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, fortunately I am a Member of the Consultative Committee attached to this Ministry. In the committee meetings also I have requested him to visit my constituency and he said that he would visit my constituency. Again I am requesting him to kindly visit my constituency.

Sir, I would like to know one thing more which is connected to this question.

MR. SPEAKER : How many connections do you want!

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, there was a proposal for construction of a canal, namely, the Indira Gandhi Canal at Barmer at a cost of Rs.590 crore. I would like to know as to what is the position of that scheme now.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, you have made your point.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, a proposal for providing heavy duty rigs and equipment for exploration of more tube wells was sent by the State Government to the Central Government in the months of March. I do not know as to what has been done about that project.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, drinking water is a State subject - planning, execution, operation, maintenance and everything is to be looked after by the State Government. Providing of drinking water being a priority subject, the Central Government has provided

funds to the State Governments in order to accelerate the completion of the programme.

Sir, in the period between 1991-93, a survey regarding the requirement of drinking water was conducted.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, his question is very simple. You are giving money, money is available with the State Government but the work is not being done. Are you going to monitor the programmes or not? You say 'yes' or 'no'.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Yes, Sir. We would do that.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, it is enough.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the State Government is responsible for everything. It is under the control of the State Government. We sent the Area Officers for monitoring the projects. All the employees and other staff are under the control of the State Government.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Government aware that villages in Rajasthan experience drinking water crisis, Drought occurs. The water level has gone down as a result of which handpumps, tubewells and other such sources created under various schemes have dried up. I seek your protection. As the hon. Minister has admitted in the reply that according to a survey conducted in 1994, the Government has identified 16,988 no-covered 18,942 partially covered and 45,843 fully covered habitations and survey is being conducted to prepare the action plan once again. Advertisements have been given in the newspapers published from Rajasthan in this regard. In my Constituency, Ajmer district, floride is present in water is as many as 100 villages. A Scheme to this effect has been submitted to the Central Government so as to resolve the drinking water crisis. I would like to know the endeavours so far made by the Government to solve the drinking water crisis in those villages. Besides, there are small villages and hamlets in Rajasthan. Though the Government has arranged water for the large revenue villages, by what time it would prepare a time bound programme and solve the drinking water crisis of small villages and places with smaller population size.

[English]

KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the United Front Government took a decision to provide drinking water to all by 2000 AD. We have asked the State Governments to give us their action plan so as to complete all uncovered and partially covered villages under this scheme by 1997-98. Further, this year we have released Rs.103 crore under ARWSP. In addition to the normal grant, this year we have released additional Rs.80 crore under Basic Minimum Services

to the State of Rajasthan. Out of this amount also they can spend some money to provide drinking water. So far, Rs.150 crore is available with the State of Rajasthan and in addition we have released Rs.80 crore.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bisalpur scheme of my Constituency has been submitted to the Central Government. There are 100 such villages in my area where fluoride is present in water. People become hunch-backed by consuming that water. The above scheme is lying pending with the Central Ministry since long. No action is being taken on that. Will the hon. Minister please state about the present status of the above scheme.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot enter into a debate here.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : On the requests made by the State Government, we are releasing the money. The State Government is the monitoring agency. The Chief Engineers and all other employees are under the control of the State Government. So, for its proper implementation they should go to the State Government and if there is anything which the Centre can do, they should ask us. We are releasing the money in time. Since the State of Rajasthan is facing a crisis, we have even released the second instalment in advance.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, the question relates to providing safe and potable water. There are various schemes with the Central Government with regard to this. If there is excess of fluoride or excess of other poisonous or disease causing substances in the water, there is a separate scheme which looks into it and the question relates to that.

MR. SPEAKER : The point is, the Member have agreed that money is available. Though you have provided the money, the work is not being done properly. Your stand is, it is a State subject and, therefore, the State Government should look into it. I agree with you. But the question is, if the responsibility of the Central Government is only to release money and nothing more, then what for this Department is required. The Planning Commission can give the money directly.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, I am trying to help you.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members are aware that in the Chief Minister's Conference of 4th July, all the Chief Ministers requested the Centre to release the money directly to the States and said that they would monitor everything. They have asked us to release the money and they would do the monitoring as they have all the machinery with them. This was the demand of the Chief Ministers of different States...(Interruptions) The United front

Government gives respect to all the States. Whatever money the Centre is releasing, they should spend it properly.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has shifted the responsibility on the States, but the question relates to him and his Ministry. The State Government has since forwarded its scheme, but what the Ministry is doing on that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Rawat ji, I have given you sufficient time. Do not disturb like this.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, reply to my question has not come.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : PAC is seized of this problem. So, the matter may be referred to PAC.

Oil Reserves

*183. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the percent estimated quantity of oil reserves available in the country;

(b) whether any fresh survey or study has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken to explore and exploit these oil reserves; and

(e) the places where oil exploration projects have been executed during the last three years and the present status of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The estimated recoverable reserves of oil and condensate as on 31.3.96 are 745.65 MMT.

(b) and (c). Estimation of oil reserves are carried out on a yearly basis.

(d) The steps taken to explore and exploit oil reserves are -

(i) Intensive exploration in known oil/gas producing areas.