

The Government, however, subsequently decided of its own to refer the debate on the Motion that was adopted on the 10th August, 1978, in the Rajya Sabha to the Chief Justice of India, with the request that he may determine whether any *prima facie* case in respect of any of the charges referred to in the debate aforesaid, which pertain to the period after the present Government took charge in March 1977, was established so as to justify a formal inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

It may, however, be added that although there is no specific provision of law under which such inquiry may be made by the Chief Justice, there are earlier precedents of such inquiries having been made.

Futurology Workshop held in Madras

4189. SHRI P. V. PERIASAMY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the principal conclusions of the Futurology Workshop held in Madras from February 6 to February 11, which was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology in collaboration with the Institute of Techno-Economic Studies; and

(b) the action initiated in preparing a perspective plan for tackling the problems of the country?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) The principal findings and recommendations of the Futurology Workshop on "Water Needs and Management—200 A.D." organised by the Institute of Techno-Economic Studies, Madras during February 6—10, 1979 are given in the attached statement.

(b) Even prior to the holding of the above Workshop, the need for planned development of our water resources, and preparation of a perspective plan for exploitation of the entire water potential for optimum benefits, and

preparation of Five-Year Plans within the framework of the overall perspective, was brought to the attention of the Government by the Irrigation Commission set up in 1969; and by the Second and Third Conferences of State Irrigation Ministers held in 1976 and 1977 respectively. After the Third Conference of State Irrigation Ministers, the Government have requested the State Governments to draw up a perspective plan for future development in their areas, immediately identifying all projects which would have to be taken up for tapping the available water resources, and to complete the investigation within 3—5 years.

Statement

Main findings and recommendations of the Futurology Workshop on "Water Needs and Management—2000 A.D." organised by the Institute of Techno-Economic Studies, Madras during February 6-10, 1979:

1. *Data Base*—The Workshop recommends the improvement and enlargement of the existing network for regular and systematic collection of Hydrometeorological, Hydrological and Hydrogeological Data; and also recommends collection of economic and social data pertinent to water resources development and management.

2. *Institutes for water studies*—Workshop welcomes the establishment of the Institute of Water Studies by the Government of Tamil Nadu; and urges that the Institute becomes the focal point for the spectrum of water subjects of relevance to the State. Consideration must be given to the establishment of similar institutes for Water Studies in other States, if they do not already exist. Cooperation and exchange of information and data with other water institutes must be promoted.

3. *Water use and Efficiency*—The Workshop believed that high priority must be given to save the water that is wasted. The results of the present

water-use technology must be disseminated to water-users effectively. The Workshop noted that structural measures such as simple improvements in canals and distribution systems, and also the range of non-structural measures such as stipulated periods of withdrawal of water, better optimum planning of cropping pattern, dry farming etc. must be considered. Workshop encouraged the establishment of norms for various uses, which could help to popularise the water withdrawal needed for efficient use. The Workshop recommended the establishment of hierarchy of water by quality, so that when uses could be met by water of inferior quality, better quality might be saved.

4. *Inter Basin Transfers*—The Workshop believed that water must be declared a national resource without any further delay; and concurrently, plans must be initiated to link rivers in the first instance. The workshop urged the formulation of a National water policy, which should give priority attention to transfer of water to drought and scarcity areas as and when necessary.

5. *Community water supply*—Concerted measures for water supply and waste disposal must rank high in the national plan. Workshop recommended launching of mid-term and long-term plans to provide increased and better distribution of water supply and waste disposal systems to deal with the growing urban problem which may be aggravated by 2000 A.D.

6. *Management of Water Demand*—The Workshop believed that water needs by 2000 A.D., and beyond, must be established by the type of use and quality needed, in order to match the demand with available supplies. The Workshop believed that demand for water for different purposes should be estimated as part of perspective planning and must be managed in a co-ordinated fashion.

7. *Application of Technology*—The Workshop noted that there is considerable scope for adopting and applying

appropriate technology both in securing water supplies and in applying water to various uses and suggested necessary action to make progress on this front.

8. *Water Management Tools*—The Workshop recommended use of following water management tools for improvement of water management;

- (a) Water legislation; reviewing existing water rights.
- (b) Administrative mechanisms to achieve effective coordination and optimum planning; development and management by Bodies such as River Boards and National Water Resources Council be established.
- (c) Consideration of desirability of applying low price to economical use and other incentives; penalties for excessive withdrawal; rationing by time or quantity, etc.
- (d) Formulation of project planning based on benefit-cost ratio.

9. *Water quality and Environmental Considerations*—The Workshop urged preservation of water quality as measure of conservation; and suggested that action must be taken to prevent pollution, and careful location of industries from this point of view. The Workshop urged that environmental considerations and criteria must become integral in water resources planning and development.

10. *Preparedness to meet Natural Hazards*—The Workshop noted that preparedness to meet natural hazards such as floods, droughts etc. must be established on a permanent footing.

11. *Afforestation*—The Workshop believed that massive afforestation would be conducive to improve water management practices.

12. *Public Participation in Water Management*—The Workshop believed

that water resources management at the field level should give a prominent place to the participation of users.

Population Dependent on Land

4190 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population dependent on land in India at the beginning of the First Five Year Plan and at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan, and

(b) whether the Planning Commission has formulated any plans to reduce the pressure on land in the Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): (a) Estimates of the number of persons dependent on Agriculture can be derived from the decennial Census. From this information a comparison over time is possible only for the number of persons engaged in agricultural work expressed as a percentage of the total number of persons employed in some economic activity. On this basis, the percentage of the number of persons engaged in agricultural and allied activities went up from 72.8 per cent in 1951 to 73.8 per cent in 1971.

(b) The pattern of investment and production visualised in the Sixth Plan period will result in an annual rate of growth of employment of 4.22 per cent per annum in agriculture and allied services, 8.4 per cent in mining, 6.83 per cent in manufacturing and 6.77 per cent in others. This means some reduction in the percentage of population dependent on agriculture. In absolute terms, 22.8 million additional persons years of employment will be created in agriculture and allied sectors and 265 million persons years in mining, manufacturing and other services. The development strategy proposed for the next plan seeks to accord the highest priority

to agricultural development so that both production and productivity in this sector is raised and the income and consumption standards of the people depending on it can be significantly improved. However, in the near future the scope for the transfer of surplus manpower from agriculture to non-agricultural pursuits is likely to remain somewhat limited.

Incentives to attract industries to Backward Areas

4191. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has asked the State Governments to slow down their schemes of giving incentives to attract industries to backward areas;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the same;

(c) whether some State Governments had not obeyed to this, and

(d) whether in some States this incentive had improved the state and people in backward areas to the greater extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) No study in this regard has so far been made. A National Committee on Backward Areas has been set up which *inter-alia* will be review the working of the scheme and indicate the relative advantages accruing from the scheme to different States. It may, however, be mentioned that a sum of Rs. 54.17 crores has been reimbursed under Central Capital Subsidy Scheme to State Governments during the period 1-10-72 to 28-2-78. A statement showing the total number of units which received subsidy under this scheme and the amount of investment made by them as on 30-6-78 is annexed.