

Economy in Expenditure

296. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**
Shri Linga Reddy:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavalaya:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Balmiki:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Narayan Reddy:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Bagri:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent and in what way economies have been effected in Plan, non-Plan and non-development expenditure;

(b) whether any further steps are proposed to be taken in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) The non-Plan expenditures of the Ministries were examined by an *ad hoc* Committee of three Secretaries presided over by the Cabinet Secretary. The Committee had before it the target of effecting reductions in 1966-67 wherever possible by 10 per cent to 15 per cent as compared to provision for 1965-66 by curtailing or suspending activities which could be dispensed with in the present context and by effecting other possible economies in general administrative expenditure. The non-Plan budgets of the Ministries

for the next year have been framed on the basis of the suggestions of this Committee.

The Plan outlay for 1966-67 has been formulated in consultation with the Planning Commission with due regard to the need for economy, the availability of resources and the essential needs including those of defence.

(b) and (c). In the context of the situation which developed in September, 1965, instructions have been issued to administrative authorities regarding measures for economy in administrative and works expenditure. The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance have intensified their programme of studies of the staffing position of various Ministries and offices for locating surpluses and for reviewing work-standards wherever necessary, apart from the studies being conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms in regard to Staffing patterns and improvement of methods of office work. Location of economy in Government expenditure consistent with efficiency is a continuing process and is receiving the constant attention of Government.

Evaluation of Irrigation Projects

294. **Shri Linga Reddy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Programme Evaluation Organisation as regards full utilization of the irrigation potential created under the Major Irrigation Projects in the country has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto with the reasons for not utilizing the irrigation potential so created; and

(c) the remedies contemplated by Government to bring under utilization the entire irrigation potential created under the Major Irrigation Projects with a view to step up agricultural production?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The studies made by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission corroborate the reasons already known for the lag in utilisation of irrigation potential. The main reasons for this lag are the delay in the construction of water courses; lack of synchronisation of field Channels with availability of Canal Water; problems of land acquisition; financial difficulties experienced by farmers; etc.

In order to overcome those difficulties, most of the State Govts. have already enacted laws assuming powers for constructing water courses and field channels at the cost of beneficiaries and recovering the cost thereof from them. Most of the State Govts. have also provided for graded water charges in the commands of new irrigation projects as an incentive to farmers.

Central River Board

**295. Dr. P. Srinivasan:
Shri Paramasivan:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for constitution of a Central River Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been decided to strengthen the Central Water and Power Commission to carry out the essential functions that were contemplated to be assigned to the Rivers Boards.

National Defence Gold Bonds and Defence Loan Schemes

**296. Dr. P. Srinivasan:
Shri Paramasivan:
Shri K. N. Pandey:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavalya:
Dr. L. M. Singhal:
Shri Warior:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Kajrolkar:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Brij Basi Lal:
Shri Maheswar Nalk:
Shri R. Barua:
Shri Dharmalingam:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Rajdeo Singh:
Shri Shiv Charan Gupta:
Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:
Shri D. O. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total subscription to the National Defence Gold Bonds Scheme so far;

(b) the total subscription to the National Defence Loan Schemes so far; and

(c) whether the public response to the schemes is upto Government's expectations?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) and (b).