

12.04 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER
STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIRST REPORT OF
STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. I wish to congratulate you for being the pioneer in this experiment. I am very happy.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI):
Thank you, Sir.

I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of Standing Committee on Water Resources in pursuance of Direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, dated September 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Water Resources examined the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 2004-05 and presented their first report in this regard to the Lok Sabha on 23rd August, 2004. The report contains 17 recommendation paragraphs. The recommendations of the Committee mainly relate to less allocation for plan schemes of the Ministry; delays in approval and execution of schemes under major/medium irrigation sector; preparation of feasibility report and DPR etc. of inter-linking of rivers; artificial recharge of ground water to arrest decline in ground water level; implementation of restructured Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development and Water Management Programme; and expeditious implementation of ongoing flood control and anti-erosion schemes.

The 17 recommendation paragraphs of the above said report contain broadly 20 recommendations. All the recommendations of the Committee have been considered in the Ministry of Water Resources. On 8 recommendations, action as proposed by the Committee has already been taken and initiated. Implementation of 9 recommendations is dependent on actions by State

Governments or Planning Commission. The Ministry of Water Resources is pursuing with State Governments and Planning Commission. Other recommendations are under process. The Action Taken Replies have been sent to the Committee.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we must compliment you as also the Government for this new practice.

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस मिनिस्टर ने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है, वह स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में तो जाएगा न ? Then, the Committee has to say whether they accept this Action Taken Replies or not. Action Taken Report has to go to the Standing Committee. This should not be the end of the matter. It has to go to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: The Standing Committee had made its recommendations, either unanimous or whatever I do not know. A new rule has now been incorporated and as per that, the hon. Minister of the concerned Ministry has to make a report as to what the Ministry has done.

The earlier usual Action Taken Report has not been given a go-by. That will remain. But by now, the hon. Minister knows the report and he knows the recommendations also.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): Sir, but practically no action has been taken.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने अभी सुना है कि क्या कहा गया है।

. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can make it in a proper manner.

. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate.

. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A new experiment has started. We are complimenting the Minister. All the Chairmen will be complimented for this.

. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Certainly in the Committee you are entitled to discuss this. I am not preventing a discussion in the Committee.

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I would like to convey that we have discussed this matter in depth in our Ministry. We have tabled three forms, which should be addressed to the Planning Commission, the Central Government and the State Governments. According to that we have set up a Cell to pursue the matter aggressively and vigorously everyday and the outcome will be obviously conveyed to the House at the appropriate time.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I would like to compliment the hon. Minister and I would also request that all the hon. Ministers make such statements in the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If they do not make it, they will be hauled up here for a breach of privilege.

. (*Interruptions*)
