

With these words I once again support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

[English]

**RESOLUTION RE : DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME—(Contd.)**

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** Now we take up Private Members' Business. Further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri Virdhi Chander Jain on the 25th January, 1985:—

“This House is of opinion that there should be parity between the Desert Development Programme and the Hill Areas Development Programme in the matter of provision of funds, facilities and concessions in the Seventh Five-Year Plan.”

Since only 25 minutes are left for this Item, I would request hon. Members to take only 5-6 minutes each. Shri Balkavi Bairagi.

[Translation]

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I feel obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Resolution moved by Shri Virdhi Chander Jain.

This is an important resolution. When we see the spirit behind the Resolution, it becomes all the more necessary on the part of Government to pay attention to it. Shri Jain spoke at length about this Resolution and almost all the Members supported it. When Shri S.B. Chavan was looking after the affairs of the Planning Ministry in 1983 he had assured Shri Jain, the mover of this Resolution, that these demands had been made in the middle of the Sixth Five Year Plan and they would be definitely considered when the draft for the Seventh Plan was drawn. He has categorically said this in the House. He also wrote to Shri Jain to this effect. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to consider his assurance at the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan. At present the ratio of development as between the hill areas and the desert areas stands at 1 : 9. The Government should remove

this anomaly. Government provide Rs. 100 crores for desert development while they allocate Rs. 900 crores for the development of hill areas. In this context I would like to say that Government have brought 21 districts under the Desert Development Programme. Here, I would like to say a word of caution that by the turn of this century or say after fifteen or twenty years, the Member who will be elected from Mandsaur, will definitely demand that this district may also be included as the 22nd district under that Programme. The reason is not far to seek. If the spread of the desert is not checked, it would advance right upto Malwa. Water is not available even at a depth of two hundred feet. Even today you can see sand particles in our rooms, on the beds in the kitchen and even in our food. The whole scene is changing in district Mandsaur. All of us are aware of how the forests are being denuded ruthlessly. Not only this, their concept of cattle-rearing is also changing. You find more sheep, goats and camels in those places where till some time back only cows and bulls used to be reared. The most important thing that Government should bear in mind and decide with regard to desert is whether you want to give priority to its development or to checking its spread. The desert is marching ahead and is extending to Malwa and if you waited for another 15 to 20 years, the population of the desert area, which according to you is 1.83 crores at present may increase by another one crore as the population of Malwa too shall have to be added because by then the desert would have engulfed this district too. On the one hand it is spreading to Gujarat and on the other side to Rajasthan and from both the sides it is engulfing us. Jhabua, Ratlam and Mandsaur are all affected by the advancing desert. Our food habits are changing, our approach to livestock is changing and the cultivation pattern is also undergoing a change. The acute shortage of drinking water is felt more in our district than in Rajasthan. If you do not treat Mandsaur on similar lines as Rajasthan then a day will come when we shall have to open branches of the Authority there also.

Being a humble Member of the House, I am saying this by way of caution. If

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we neglected this area, I am afraid 25 years later some other Member would complain to you about this.

You are developing forests to check the advance of desert. It is requested that the areas of Madhya Pradesh which are adjacent to the Rajasthan border may also be included in the programme. You cannot complete the programme without associating us with this. Laboratories should be opened in the border areas which are in the clutches of the desert and you would come to know how far the points touched by me are true.

I support this resolution moved by Shri Jain and request Government that the whole matter should be examined afresh because this is the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Shri Jain had written the letter about three years back and about two to two and a half years back he was asked to remind at the appropriate time. Now, I am reminding at the appropriate time when the Seventh Five Year Plan is being finalised. If you do not pay attention to us at this hour then we shall have to decide later, when to call on you.

I congratulate Shri Virldhi Chander Jain once again for moving this resolution. Government should once again consider and remove the anomaly between the development of the hill areas and that of the desert areas. The attitude that desert areas can be developed at some later stage and the immediate development of the hill areas is essential would not be of much help. The rapidly advancing desert is a far bigger challenge and demands Governments immediate attention.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I should like to thank Shri Virldhi Chander Jain for introducing this Resolution. It has focussed attention on a very important aspect of our national and regional development. I am also grateful to Shri Mool Chand Daga for his intervention and for the amendment he has moved and also to all other hon. Members for the contribution they have made during the discussion,

It has been a very constructive discussion and what is interesting is that there was not a single Member who really disagreed with the substance of this Resolution. Shri Jain has been more or less a crusader for the cause of desert development—one who has been primarily responsible for highlighting this issue of development. I have therefore very great sympathy for his demand but as all the hon. Members know sympathy has to be, in terms of development and planning, transformed into hard cash. Therefore, our responses while positive are within the limits of resources available. Hon. Members have referred to the assurance given by the then Minister of Planning, Shri S. B. Chavan. I have seen that assurance. We stand by that assurance that in the process of planning we would give serious consideration to the requirement of the desert areas.

The main demand is for the equation of funds spent and the pattern of financing of desert areas with that of hill areas. I feel that there is no need to compare these two sectors of development. Desert development can stand on its own merit. There are actually differences between the two problems. Without cutting into or without comparing with the requirements of the hill areas we can find independent solutions for the problems of the desert. That is not only an issue for the State of Rajasthan but it is a national issue because as has been pointed out, the desert of Rajasthan is in a sort of creeping aggression moving towards Delhi itself. Therefore, we have to stop desertification which is an urgent and national necessity. Also for maintaining and restoring the eco system we will have to give considerable thought as well as attention to this question.

Of course, the problem of the people of Rajasthan who are directly affected by desert conditions are very much in our mind. This is not a new subject for the Government of India. Right from 1951-52, the attention of the nation has been drawn to this question. Committees were set up. Various studies were made and various programmes were introduced for tackling the question of desertification and the development of desert regions. As early as 1971, we started the programme of what is called the Drought Area Development Programme. Later on, in 1977-78, we star.

ted the specific desert development programme. By 1980, the two programmes were separated. Many hon. Members have mentioned that this has been a retrograde step as both of them have been not running together in the desert area. As a matter of fact, these programmes were separated because of duplication of the same type of work under separate programmes. After the separation of the two programmes, the desert areas far from being adversely affected, gained more, because there was greater concentration of resources in the areas which were demarcated as desert districts.

I have gone into some of the statistics. I find that after the separation of the two programmes, the amount of money spent on the desert districts and blocks has been actually much more than what was spent together in the same regions for the two programmes, when they were running concurrently. Therefore, this separation was a rational one and decided upon for the purpose of giving a greater thrust to the desert development programme rather than diluting it. Fundamentally, the question is really, first of all, of stopping the advance of deserts and, secondly, of building up infrastructure as well as other measures for a better life for the people in these regions.

One very major issue which has been raised by almost everyone has been that of the problem of drinking water. Now, drinking water is an acute problem for the entire rural sector in India. As you know, we have embarked upon a major programme. In fact, the Approach Paper on the Seventh Plan has adopted the objective of the Decade of Drinking Water and Sanitation according to which by 1990-91, all the villages of India would have drinking water, potable water. Of course, this is a very simple thing. But in terms of investment involved, it is a major task. Someone has calculated—it is a rough calculation—that it would cost around Rs. 11,000 crores for supplying the rural areas of India, all of them, with drinking water.

As regards Rajasthan itself, considerable work has been done though I would not claim that it has been satisfactory. In 1980, about 19,803 villages were declared as problem villages. By "problem villages",

they mean, where there is no source of drinking water within a radius of 1.6 km. Out of these, under the Sixth Plan, it was decided to cover about 15,996 villages with drinking water facilities. The estimate is that at the end of the Sixth Plan, there are about 3,807 villages which remained without water as spill over. I think, it is possible to tackle this problem in this Seventh Plan and even go a little more ahead and deal with not only the problem villages but also for the provision of drinking water in a more satisfactory way in the desert region.

There are also other schemes. Of course, water supply is a State subject. But the Centre gives assistance specially under the minimum needs programme. Besides, there are Central schemes under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme operated by the Ministry of Works and Housing. I have some figures here. During the Sixth Plan, under the minimum needs programme, the States spent about Rs. 115.61 crores on drinking water supply, while the Government assisted the State of Rajasthan to the tune of Rs. 123.77 crores.

I do not claim that this is large enough to deal with the problem. But I think this shows the earnestness and the intention of the Governments both Central and State Governments to deal with this basic problem. Drinking water is not merely a humanitarian need, a physical need or a social need. It is much more than that. I think, the provision of drinking water is an economic need as well, in the sense that it would give impetus to the economic development all over the rural sector in India. Therefore, the importance of drinking water for the purpose of making development has to be recognised and the Government is very well aware of this importance.

As regards Rajasthan, one basic problem is really that of lack of sources of water. There is very little underground water. This fact is agreed upon by every one. Many of the hon. Members have also given expression to this fact. Until the Rajasthan Canal is completed, it would be difficult to tackle this massive question in the desert successfully. The Rajasthan Canal is a very ambitious project. It is in the State sector and the hon. Members have demanded that the Centre should study

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the proposals made by the State Governments in view of the national importance of this project. Of course, the Centre is already giving some financial assistance. As you know, the first stage of this Canal has already been completed or largely been completed and for the second stage, work is going on. There has been retardation primarily because of the revision of the plan projects two or three times. The latest revision involved some basic questions. Not that they are insoluble questions but, technically, they have to be approved by the Central Water Commission and the enhanced finances are to be found for implementing the scheme. The proposal is at the moment with the Central Water Commission and once it passes through the Commission, it will go to the Committee on Irrigation and Flood Control and thereafter it will come to the Planning Commission for taking a final view on this particular project, I have absolutely no doubt that the ultimate solution for the problem of water in the Rajasthan desert is the completion of this very major project. I cannot give any assurance about it, but I can only say that the policy of the Government of India as well as of the State Government of Rajasthan is to speed up the completion of this major project.

There have been many other issues raised like that of electrification and medical facilities. These are all connected and very vital to the life of the people in this region and part of the desert development programme. I am not trying to evade them. Many steps have been taken by the Central Government to help the State Government in implementing the schemes. I am not detailing those steps because they are well-known. They apply to all parts of India with, of course, variations required for the specific conditions of the desert regions of Rajasthan.

But what is specific to the region are measures connected with ecology, eco-preservation, like preventing soil erosion, afforestation, planting shelter belt plantations, sand dunes stabilisation and such other fundamental schemes for fighting the advance of the desert. In this, some progress has been made though I would not claim that it is very spectacular. According to the information obtained from the Rajasthan Government, during the Sixth Plan

18,393 hectares of land have been treated through water-shed based soil conservation programmes; about 1,136 wells have been constructed—not a very exciting number; dairy societies have been established. These are by way of infrastructure. I have the actual figure about afforestation also. Afforestation has been done on 13,219 hectares of forest land. 1.60 lakh plants have been distributed for farm forestry.

There is another more basic thing in Rajasthan. Some members have mentioned about the Centre for Arid Zone Research at Jodhpur; one hon. Member has mentioned that it is a kind of armed-chair work that goes on there. I have had discussions with the Director as well as scientists of this Institute and I find that they have been doing a new type of work, a constructive type of work. In fact, unless we go ahead with the scientific and technological research and innovations in dealing with desert conditions, there is really no sure way of fighting the advance of desert or trying to improve the standard of living or the living conditions of the people in this unfortunately-situated desert region. I think, we should not try to run down the work done by this Institute. In fact, recently we had a visit from the Planning Minister of Tunisia and I was surprised that one of the things he wanted to see was this Institute; he also wanted to have a cooperative arrangement with this Institute in order to develop similar scientific work in his own country. Of course, one cannot say that what they have devised can be immediately applied. But they have grown special types of plants and fruits, they have found methods of treating the soil and they have also demonstration farms around the Institute. Actually the Director told me that he would like to invite some Members of Parliament to come and visit this Institute and to see the work they are doing, not only in the laboratory but in the entire area around it.

16.00 hrs.

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) :** The Government is going so slow that even to invite the MPS to go and visit the Institute, the officers are only thinking.

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** They have told me. I think I can arrange the



visit very easily, I do not think that they are trying to hide anything.

It is certain that without having recourse to new scientific technology for growing vegetation, for dealing with the soil, for afforestation and other problems, we cannot really fight the advance of the desert. So we have to have some commitment to the methods of science and technology in tackling this problem.

The major question raised was that of funding. Now the pattern of funding is 50-50. That is, 50% by the Centre and 50% to be raised by the State and the Centre's 50% will be given only if the State is in a position to raise its share of 50%. There is a difference, of course, between the Hill Area Development Programme and this. But I think there is no need to compare the two programmes. We can and we ought to fund the Desert Development Programme independently because it stands on its own merits and its own needs and requirements.

I have here—I think this has been used by Members a passage from the Approach Paper on the Seventh Plan, which says :

“In case of Desert Development Programme the need to give a greater thrust to it, if necessary, by remodelling it on the lines of other special area programmes like the Hill Area or Tribal Programmes will have to be examined.”

The Approach Paper is a guideline to the formation of the Seventh Plan. We stand by this guideline. We are examining in the Planning Commission how and to what extent this guideline can be incorporated in the Plan.

As you know, the financial pattern was decided by the National Development Council. There is no constitutional or legitimate way by which the Planning Commission can change the proportion of funding unless the matter is cleared and revised by the National Development Council itself. But we can work towards that following the guideline in this Approach Paper and I want to inform the hon. House that it is the intention of the Government to provide sufficient funds for this programme consistent with the overall availa-

bility of resources for the Plan and within these limits we certainly are prepared to examine the proposition. In fact, inherently it is already stated in the Approach Paper and as has been pointed out, Shri S. B. Chavan has also written saying that he is prepared to examine the question. We are examining it according to the assurance given and we are examining it with a great deal of sympathy and awareness of the importance of the Desert Development Programme not only for Rajasthan but for the whole of India because we have to fight the process of desertification and the improvement of the living conditions for the people of Rajasthan is also a matter of national importance for us.

With these words I would like to request the mover of the resolution to withdraw it because the Government is fully conscious of the objectives of the resolution and are prepared to work towards it.

And I should also like to request Shri Mool Chand Daga—may be I should have done it first—to withdraw his amendment which does not really make much change to the Resolution except that it highlights the lack of funds in the hands of the Rajasthan government. I want to thank all the hon. Members who have spoken on the subject because they have focussed attention on many of the aspects of the livelihood of the ordinary people of India in their presentation through the media of the desert development problem of Rajasthan.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, twelve hon. Members participated in the debate on the Resolution on the Desert development programme moved by me and the hon. Minister has replied to it.

I would like to thank Sarvashri Ananda Pathak, Girdhari Lal Vyas, Annanambi, Mohar Singh Rathore, Mool Chand Daga, Rameshwar Prasad Singh, Ram Pyare Panika, K.D. Sultanpuri, Girdhari Lal Dogra, Priya Ranjan Das Munsi, Balkavi Bairagi and the hon. Minister who have unanimously supported the Resolution.

The reply that the hon. Minister has given does not clarify whether the prob-

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lem of the acute shortage of drinking water can be solved without the Rajasthan Canal.

I would like to submit that it would be better if we find the solution to the problem of drinking water through the Rajasthan Canal. The Rajasthan Government had drawn up a plan involving an expenditure of about Rs 3,000 crores, but they cannot implement it. They do not have the resources to implement it. The problem of drinking water is such, that it cannot be solved without special assistance from the Central Government, which should in any case be more than that given to the hill areas.

Besides the question of drinking water there is the issue of the Rajasthan Canal. The project was approved in 1957. At that time the estimate was that it would cost Rs. 66 crores but at present it is estimated that the five lift canals of the Rajasthan Canal, development of Command Area and taking water upto Gadra Road through a flow canal would cost Rs. 1,500 crores. It can in no way be completed in less than Rs. 1,500 crores, whether you make provision in the Seventh Five Year Plan or the State is asked to provide funds for that. Till you extend special assistance the canal cannot be constructed. The Rajasthan Canal can also serve the purpose of an Ichhogil canal, i.e. it has strategic importance also.

The Rajasthan Canal will bring prosperity to the areas covered by it. The canal will serve the needs relating to drinking water, irrigation, agricultural production and will result in the overall progress and development of the area. The Rajasthan Canal has to play a special role in connection with all the above needs.

I have seen the draft of the Seventh Plan with regard to hill areas of U.P. Special projects have been drawn up for the hill areas. U.P has taken the lion's share of Rs. 350 crores out of the total Plan allocation of Rs. 560 crores. Kashipur, Nainital, Almora and parts of Garhwal are covered under this project which as compared to Barmer and Jaisalmer are far more developed (*Interruptions*) though every area has different problems, Yet there are some common problems too,

on which I would dwell later on. You can get a clue by comparing the density of population in these areas. In hill areas the density of population is 175 persons per square kilometre while in Jaisalmer it is 10 to 15 persons and in Barmer about 75 persons per square kilometre.

Another problem is a friend from Madhya Pradesh was also saying the desert is advancing towards their area also and Vyasji was telling that it was advancing towards their area also. In a way it has become a national problem. So far as the hill areas are concerned, if you pay special attention to forest development there those areas can be developed, but if you want to develop forests in desert areas, it will cost ten times more. Afforestation in that area would be quite difficult. Therefore, I would request that you should view it from the angle that these desert areas are too much undeveloped areas and you can see it yourself if you happen to pay a visit. The officer had gone there in connection with some schemes and they revised the scheme of drinking water. They have raised the supply to 76 liters from 40 litres. Similar changes well made in that scheme in view of the number of cattle heads. A village in that area stretches up to an area of 50 to 100 square miles. Arrangement for drinking water should be made for a block of population of 250. You have identified 3980 problem villages, in respect of which no arrangement has been made. If we treat a population of 250 as a unit, ten thousand villages will come under desert area on the basis of population. What I want to emphasise is that drinking water is still not available in the desert areas. The people have to trudge a distance of as much as ten kilometres to fetch water. When we have adopted a norm that nobody should have to go beyond 1.6 kilometers, this norm should be made operative in desert areas also. Even the medical facilities cannot be made available for want of roads. If a hospital is opened there, no doctor is prepared to go there. There is no arrangement of electricity. There is no arrangement of drinking water. You will have to pay attention to expanding the infrastructure also. So far as electricity is concerned, only 10 to 15 per cent villages have been covered in our State, whereas in other parts of the country the

figure extends up to 60 per cent. What I mean to say is that such is the magnitude of this problem that it is imperative to solve it now.

I also want to tell you that I have also seen the Central Road Research Institute. It has a gigantic and important task. But the benefit of their work is not reaching the farmers. You should make a special arrangement so that this benefit could reach them. Today, there is a need to disseminate knowledge. I have already mentioned that it is a man-made desert and afforestation has been very successful there. There has been a considerable increase in production in the areas where camal has reached. That area has witnessed fast development and a lot of progress has been made there. Therefore, if special financial assistance is not given to Bikaner, Barmer, Jaisalmer and the neighbouring areas, we shall not be able to solve the drinking water problem even in the coming 30 years. If special assistance is not provided, we shall not be in a position to achieve our targets from the Rajasthan Canal even in 30 years. Already, 29 years have passed since construction work of Rajasthan Canal started and it may take another 28 years to complete it if special assistance is not provided. In the absence of special assistance, your target of linking villages up to the population of 1500 by road by the year 1990, will not be achieved. In our State, the cost of construction of roads is double or treble as compared to other areas. We shall also have to pay attention to Primary Health Centres. In this modern age, we want to solve all these problems. Therefore, you should give a thorough consideration to all these things and a proper investigation should be made in this regard. You have the resources. You have made provision for hill areas. You did provide special assistance to hill areas in 1981-82. Now, in the Seventh Plan, the position is that the desert has spread to an area of 2 lakh 36 thousand square kilometres, whereas the hilly area is spread over 2 lakh 31 thousand square kilometres. Their population is 4 crore 2 lakhs, whereas our population as per the 1971 census is only 1 crore 82 lakhs. Their population is double that of ours, whereas our area is more than their area. Our area is too much undeveloped and it is essential to assist it in all respects.

There is a vast scope in the state for animal husbandry if you want to push it up. Even today, the milk reaching Delhi is supplied from our desert areas of Jodhpur and Bikaner. If we pay attention to the development of dairies there the economy of the area can be further boosted and we can march ahead. Our cattle, i.e. cows and bullocks are of the finest breed in the country. There is much scope for progress in this field. An agricultural university on the lines of the one you have at Pantnagar can be set up at Bikaner. The purpose of my highlighting these issues here is that the State Government of Rajasthan are not in a position to take up big schemes like these on their own. As you have also said, this is a national issue and we should get full assistance from the Central Government to solve this problem so that our backward desert area could make progress. This area is also a border area and in this respect also it is necessary to develop it. Neither radio nor television facility exists there. Radio Pakistan is heard in our area as Akashvani does not cover this area. Facility of television has been provided to Ganganagar, but it has not reached other places. Today, there is need to boost their morale by providing such facility. During the war with Pakistan, our area gallantly faced the enemy and worked as border sentinel. Such border areas should be given full assistance to facilitate more and more development.

With these words, I want to request that more serious consideration should be given to it and special assistance should be provided to this area.

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Sir, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment ?

MANY HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

*The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the light of the views I have expressed here and in

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view of the reply given by the Hon. Minister, I believe that this area will be developed by giving it special assistance. I have also talked to the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission in this connection and he has also given me a satisfactory reply. I want that the hon. Minister should visit our area, apprise himself of the situation prevailing there, then he will not find any difficulty with regard to allocation of funds. In view of all these points, I seek leave of the House to withdraw this Resolution.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution ?

MANY HON. MEMBERS ; Yes.

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn*

#### RESOLUTION RE : CONVERSION OF AIR AND DOORDARSHAN INTO AUTONOMOUS CORPORATIONS

[English]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That this House resolves that the All India Radio and Doordarshan be converted into autonomous corporations to ensure objectivity, impartiality and independence of the mass media.”

Sir, there is no doubt that TV and Radio are the mass media meant for mass communication. Though its history is as old as 50 years, a serious thought to these media was given only in 1964 by appointing a committee under Shri Asok K. Chander. He made certain recommendations for the betterment of radio and TV and the proposals are as follows :

“The Corporation should be set up by an Act of Parliament laying down clearly its objectives ; the scope of Government’s authority should be defined clearly and it should be free of ambiguity ; the right to require the corporation to broadcast certain programmes as also the right to veto broadcasts in certain subjects in the national interest, may be reserved

by Government ; the Act itself should lay down the authority and powers of the governors to prevent possible encroachment.”

Sr, this autonomy has not only been supported by Shri Ashok Chander. but this idea was first mooted by our late Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1948 while speaking in the Constituent Assembly and he said :

“My own view of the set up for broadcasting is that we should approximate as far as possible to the British method, the BBC, that is to say, it would be better if we have a semi-autonomous corporation under Government, of course with the policy controlled by Government otherwise being not conducted as a Government department but as a semi-autonomous corporation. Now I do not think that is immediately feasible. I have merely mentioned this to the House. I think we should aim at that, even though we may have many difficulties. In fact in most matters we should aim at these semi-autonomous corporations, the policy and other things being controlled by Government departments not interfering in their day to day activities. But that is not an immediate issue.”

Though they have gone into the recommendations of the Committee of Ashok Chander, they have not taken any steps. Under the Janata regime, the Government have appointed another committee under the chairmanship of Shri Verghese. He also recommended similar proposals. Whatever may be the causes, Government have not taken these recommendations into consideration. The Ruling Party wants it to be controlled by Government. If it is being used as an organ of the Government, how can it be objective, impartial and independent ?

Sir, the objective of All India Radio and Television is to take the news to the far off places and to educate the rural masses and help in the developmental activities. But our All India Radio is nothing but All\*\* Radio and our Door Darshan is nothing but\*\* Darshan.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : It was partial in Janata Regime. But now