

12.32 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1987-88—

Contd.

Ministry of Water Resources—*Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we will take up Item No. 16—Further discussion and voting on the Demand for Grant under the control of the Ministry of Water Resources. The Minister will reply.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion on the Demands of the Ministry took place for more than eight hours. I am really grateful to the members who participated in the debate. During the debate very important issues were raised and suggestions were made. Though the debate was serious, it was, to some extent, delightful too. More than 50 Members of Parliament participated in the debate and that itself shows the keen interest evinced by the members in matters relating to water resource problems of this country.

The issues raised and the suggestions made were many and as many as 52 members spoke. Suggestions were made by some members regarding the nationalisation of rivers; the subject of water to be kept in the Concurrent List of the Constitution; the formation of a National Water Grid; and criteria for deciding whether a river basin is a surplus basin or a deficit basin.

Some hon. Members suggested that there should be a ban for five years in the major and medium irrigation projects and only the potential that has been created should be utilised and all efforts should be made in that direction.

There were many other things which the hon. Members referred in regard to their towns. Mostly, they referred to the general national issues. They pertained to the regional issues and particularly to the issues concerning their respective constituencies. If we look to the overall picture painted by the various Members in their respective areas, a broad national picture emerges. Members have complained about the delayed clearance and implementation of the projects and also about funding in certain

respects. Members demanded that certain projects should be treated as national projects. There were also allegation made by some Members about the corruption at the implementation stage by the Engineers in certain projects. Grave references were made with reference to the lag in the potential created and the potential utilised with huge investments. There were references with regard to floods, droughts and their management, the moneys spent, by way of relief and control measures, water-logging, by mis-utilisation—misuse of water—and excess use of water. Members suggested certain recommendations with regard to the command area development and lapses and achievements. Some Members also referred to the water rates and their recovery by the States and though not the most serious one, but amongst the serious issues that were raised is the resolving of inter-State Water disputes. We have come before the House for voting of our demands. The House is aware and the hon. Members are aware that the allocation in the Central Sector in the Seventh Plan is Rs. 884.23 crores as compared to the approved allocations for the States, which is Rs. 16,143 crores. The role of the Central Government is limited in view of the fact that there is no central sector programme which is planned, funded and implemented, mostly all these water resources development activities are taken in the State sector and the States are planning their programmes, formulating their programmes, financing their programmes and implementing them. We are in the Centre and our role is one of our overall planning, coordination, guidance in policy formulations and assistance. We do support the State Governments with regard to their planning and policy formulations, technical guidance, scrutiny, clearance and advise them with regard to the general infrastructural and technical matters and in some cases we provide special central financial assistance and assistance in obtaining external financing from the World Bank and other agencies.

Sir, in respect of minor irrigation and Command Area Development, the role of overall planning, policy formulation, guidance and administration of monitoring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in this area also lies with us. In respect of ground water development our role is towards the

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overall resource planning, establishment of utilisable resources, formulation of policies of exploitation, overseeing and support of State level activities. We also do the formulation of National Water Development Perspective and the determination of the water balance which is undertaken by the National Water Development Agency. In this way, our role is mostly limited not in directly funding any central sector programme but also advising, guiding the State Governments in the various activities of water resources development. The question before us is what is the water that is available in this country? Whether we are prepared to make use of that utilisable water? And if so, whether we have enough resources, and given enough resources whether we will be able to achieve them within the specified time? The total surface water resources in this country have been 178 million hectare metres. It has also been assessed that about 67 million hectare metres of surface water can be utilised. Out of 178 million hectare metres that are available, the utilisable water is only 67 million hectare metres. In view of this, it has also been assessed that the ultimate irrigation potential of the country has been about 113 million hectare by conventional methods. The question is whether we are prepared to make use of this utilisable water, and if so, by what method?

Sir, one of the Members suggested that there should be ban on major and medium irrigation projects for five years because according to him there has been a big gap between the potential created and the potential utilised. But, if the Hon Member will come to know as to how this gap persists, perhaps, he will be able to say whether we should stop the further efforts of conserving water by storage or leave it to go to the seas because most of the precipitation takes place in this country during the three or four months of the rainy season. Unless we hoard that, we will not be able to utilise the water that is available. Members who spoke in favour of minor irrigation, I will deal with them later. But, I should say, what are the reasons for this gap between the potential created and potential utilised. I can say that up to the end of Sixth Plan, the potential created and utilised from major and medium projects

are 30.01 million hectares and 25.33 million hectares respectively. This means that about 4.68 million hectares created potential remained unutilised. The possible reasons for this unutilisation if I can mention before the House, Sir, are these. Whenever any project is cleared, the implementation is effected, by building reservoirs, and not building the distributory system taking water to the farm gates. It is usually presumed that the entire potential that is envisaged and projected, is created; and that is accounted for.

The irrigation potential is to be considered as created, when availability of water, conveyance system and the land are ensured. After completion of the projects, all these aspects have to be checked back, and ensured before reporting the potential created. Usually, this is not done. It is also seen that the irrigable command is worked out on a broad basis at the formulation stage, and the actual land available on physical and geographical considerations has to be assessed by a re-survey, before reporting the potential—which is also not done. Generally, in most of the cases, this is not done.

The third reason is this: if the land development below the outlet point is not completed, the necessary adjustment should be made in the potential created. For this, according to the cropping pattern, actually practised or possible which is often different from what is assessed originally, the potential of every project needs to be re-assessed. This re-assessment should be repeated after every five years.

It is common knowledge that the farmers on the upper reaches, either indulge in intensive irrigation or excessive utilization of water; and the tail-enders suffer. They do not get the water; and still, on record the entire area in this command is under utilization. These are the various factors which need to be gone into, before we come to the conclusion that such a big gap exists.

I have been taking steps in my Ministry, from this year. I am setting up a committee to go into the question of finding out the real gap that is existing, between the potential created and the potential utilized.

If you look to the Plan outlays, the total Plan outlay till the end of the 6th Plan for water resources development was Rs. 14,879 crores for major and medium irrigation; and for minor irrigation it was Rs. 4,482 crores, beside an institutional outlay of Rs. 3,738 crores which comes to Rs. 23,099 crores. The 7th Plan provisions, for major and medium and minor together, are Rs. 17,861 crores. For 1985-86 the approved outlay was Rs. 2,895 crores. If we look to the potential that has been created for this investment, and the utilization, you will come to know that the potential created to the time of 6th Plan is 67.53 million hectares, and the utilization is 60.58 hectares; that is, 88.1% has been utilized.

The gap existed for one reason. The rate of increase in the creation of the potential.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon) : What about water-logging?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : If you listen to me you will be able to understand it. The rate of increase in the creation of potential was more than the rate of increase in the potential utilized. In both the cases, there was an increase—creation and also utilization. Utilization has never lagged behind; it has never decreased from year to year in respect of utilization. Only the rate of increase is much in creation rather than utilization.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam) : But that should be avoided.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The moment the potential is created, it cannot be utilized overnight unless a farmer is able to receive water and he is able to obtain other inputs which are necessary to make use of the farm. That takes time. Usually the time is also taken for having field channels, for having on-term development activities. These are the factors which take time. It is not possible. The moment you get water and if you feel that a farm can be made use of, it is not possible.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Has the Ministry of Agriculture to play any role?

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Water is the major input, so far as agriculture is concerned. The other inputs are minor.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Water is the major input even for the survival of life also.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Even for the survival of cultivators.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I was a farmer myself. I know how water is utilized by the farmer. The moment water is available, the farmer changes his crop. He needs seeds; then he needs money; then he needs bankings assistance; he needs so many things. I do not know if the hon members know the life of a farmer. It is not mere water that produces all agricultural products.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : They should be educated about water management. Every cultivator needs fertilisers, seeds and other things. Water is also necessary and water management must be taught to them.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Even at the advancement level, if all other things are made available to him including equipments, then only the problems will be solved.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : He is not contradicting me; he is supporting what I am saying. He says, water should be properly managed. So, there are various other reasons. So, this necessary thing is bound to exist even after the creation of the Potential. Utilization takes some more time and that cannot be avoided. Unless on farm development takes place like land levelling, land shaping, field channelling, bank assistance, fertilisers, seeds—all these things take time—it is not possible to do it. Hon. members know, when they go to their constituencies, how do they feel when they go to banks? How much time is taken to get loan and other things, and the functioning of the rural credit cooperative societies at the rural level. Perhaps the hon. members know the plight of the farmer. So, this gap is bound to exist, and on that account, I am

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not on the defensive; I do not feel guilty, because it is physically impossible to wipe out the gap immediately after the water is made available and the potential is created.

Member have criticised about completion of the projects in the last many years. 17 major projects identified as likely to be completed in the sixth plan document were completed in addition to 19 other projects. I should say, 159 medium schemes were completed during the Sixth Plan itself—181 major and 433 medium projects which have spilled over into the Seventh Plan are in different stages of completion. The main reasons for spilling over of these projects beyond their schedule is due to among others, inadequate financing at the time of formulation of the plans.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : For a number of projects the foundation stones have been laid but no progress has been there at all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Due to financial shortage.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : For that we are all responsible. Because, everyone wants a project in his constituency whether the State has money or has not money, and we know how these foundation stones are laid. It is common knowledge that all Members of Parliament want foundation stones to be laid, in spite of the fact that the States do not have the resources.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : What about the Projects where money is available and there is no progress at all ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am not speaking about those projects where funds are there; I am speaking about the projects where foundation stones have been laid without providing the resources either in the Annual Plan or in the Five Year Plans.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : I am asking about the 181 and 433 which the hon. Minister mentioned.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : What about the projects for which funds have been allotted but the money has not been spent in time ?

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Let the Minister finish his reply. Why are they all interfering ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everybody wants a project in his constituency to be executed !

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I will be able to give you the figures where the projects are pending clearance, then you will see why the projects are not cleared and then you will be able to know the huge number of projects which have been started by the States without providing funds.

The Central Water Commission—because there has been some complaint about the delay I want to mention this and I wish to give certain figures to the hon'ble House—the projects pending examination by the Central Water Commission are 20.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Only 20 ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Only 20 major irrigation projects and 18 medium irrigation projects. The projects that have been cleared by the Central Water Commission and sent to the Planning Commission for clearance, they are 71 major irrigation projects and 142 medium irrigation Projects.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Very good.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : They will be cleared. They are on the verge of being cleared. That is what I said.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : State-wise imbalances are there.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The projects pending with the State Governments in the sense that the projects for which the Central Water Commission had made some comments and sent them to the State Governments for their replies—they

number 84 major irrigation projects and 40 medium irrigation projects.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : That is all ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The projects which have been completely returned to the States because the States failed to give reply to the comments of the Central Water Commission, we waited for some time and the entire projects have been sent back and they are 93 major irrigation projects.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Nobody replies ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : And 86 medium irrigation projects.

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This is what has been happening. You can imagine how the foundation stones are laid. The House will be surprised to know about another fact. There are 73 major on-going irrigation projects in the Seventh Five Year Plan which have not been approved by the Planning Commission and still they are on-going projects.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Without getting the real approval how are they going ahead ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In anticipation.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Work has been going on these projects for the past several years. And some of them are at an advanced stage of completion. This is what is happening. Not only for the last two years but several years this has been going on.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur) : How could the projects be started without clearance from the Planning Commission ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I wish to inform the House that the Seventh Plan outlay for those unapproved projects which are on-going projects is Rs. 3058 crores out of an aggregate outlay of Rs. 11506 crores.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : That means, Planning Commission has cleared them.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : There is a lot which can be said on this but I do not want to take the time of the House. The only thing I wish to say is this. The issue of clearance need not be made an issue in this House because I am giving these figures to show that the States have not waited for the clearance. When it suits them, they make a big issue here in this House. When it suits them, they start implementation of the project without referring to the Government of India. I request the hon. Members to think over it seriously and need not make much of the issue of clearance as if implementation is not going on because projects have been withheld.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : What are those projects ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : 73 are there.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli) : How many major projects are pending with the CWC and Planning Commission ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I have already told you. They are very few. After telling that, I have come to this.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA (Hassan) : The cases of 73 may not be the same, because Government of India is having clearance as a lever to operate. For example, in Karnataka the non-plan expenditure has become so heavy that the Government of India has not cleared for two decades some of the projects. And because of that we are suffering.

SHRI K. S. RAO : So many States are going ahead without clearance from the Planning Commission and CWC. If it is an inter-State project, how do you solve the problem among three or four States ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I am not justifying the delay in the clearance. The Members may not take it that I am pleading for the delay in clearance. I am not justifying that. If there is a delay,

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there is a delay, and if there is a delay in clearance, it is not deliberate. If there is anything wanting in the clearance of projects by way of techno-economic establishment, viability establishment or any other reason—maybe inter-State dispute, may be the water availability is in question...
(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Rehabilitation.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Rehabilitation comes thereafter. But the question is if there is delay, that delay is largely on the part of the State Governments because they do not plan and contemplate their projects with full investigation and they do not come to the Central Water Commission with full facts. They do not give the proper estimate. They under-estimate particularly in order to get sanction and clearance by the State and convince the people. But when it comes for scrutiny, it is found that the estimates are not properly made and there is huge gap between the estimate made at the beginning and the revised estimate...
(Interruptions)

SHRI K. S. RAO : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the Centre has no control over the States on their water resources and they go ahead in their own way. The only thing is that when they come to the Centre, then only they control. and when they do not come to the Central, then there is no control.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I will come to that. I have only said that...
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : The position is just the reverse. The fact is that your officers do not raise all queries at a time. They take ten years in putting one query and in informing about that.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : This is not a fact. If you ask me about a particular project, I shall tell you about that.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I had told you about the Mahi Project yesterday.

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I have said this and again I want to repeat this. Just I want to inform the hon. Members and plead with them that let them not lose temper for the delay in clearance because here I have shown the cases where the States have not waited for the clearance from the Central Water Commission and the Planning Commission and they have started implementing their own projects. Whenever it suits them, they do it and when it does not suit them, they raise the issue here about the delay in clearance. The only thing is that the States do not utilise the resources in majority of the cases for the quick implementation of the projects that are cleared. That is the reason why in the Seventh plan emphasis is laid that the on-going projects should be completed first. There should be stress and emphasis on the completion of the on-going projects. That has been the emphasis in the Seventh plan itself. In future we have decided that the clearance of any particular project will be taken seriously when the States come forth with enough provision in their State's Plan for the particular projects...
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Sir, I had raised one point last year to the same Minister about the same Ministry that the Masani Dam Project was being constructed by the Haryana Government without obtaining the permission of the Government of Rajasthan and without having any sort of technical approval of Rajasthan. The Chief Minister on 18th March 1981, wrote a letter saying : "You please don't take up the work and don't construct the barrage, otherwise eighteen villages will be submerged." What action has the Ministry taken ? No action has been taken. They are constructing the dam over the territory of Rajasthan without obtaining the permission of the Government of Rajasthan, causing submergence of eighteen villages. So, on the one hand he is saying that they are giving the approval and, on the other hand, the Haryana Government is not taking care to...
(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is enough. Please take your seat. You are making a speech. That is enough, otherwise it will become a dialogue. Since the issues about laws are raised, may I say—water is a State subject according to the provisions of the Constitution. Entry 17...

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Please listen. I will come to that. Entry 17 of List II-State List—Seventh Schedule—reads as follows :

“Water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power subject to the provisions of entry 56 of List I.”

What is the Union List-entry 56, List I, Seventh Schedule ? It reads as follows :

“Regulation of mines and mineral development to the extent to which such regulation and development under the control of the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest.”

Parliament has to enact. (Interruptions) In such cases, then only the Government of India can get power. (Interruptions) Clause I of Article 262 of the Constitution authorises Parliament to provide by law for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution or control of the waters of, or in, any inter-State river or river valley.

Clause (2) has legal restraint—

“Parliament may by law provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court shall exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint as is referred to in Clause (1).”

What I want to say is, unless appropriate law is enacted by Parliament to take powers to manage and regulate water as in entry 56...

SHRI K.S. RAO : Why do you not come up with the Bill ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Why do you not introduce a Bill ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am happy that the House feels it expedient at this moment to come up with these laws.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you want to continue after lunch or you want to finish just now ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I will take some time. I want to continue after lunch. I have just completed certain part of it. I have to reply to all the members as they have raised certain issues. (Interruptions) That is what I say. Perhaps, each member wants to know as to what I want to say in his case.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We adjourn for lunch to re-assemble at 14.10.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at sixteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, declare 13th as a holiday.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : 14th is a holiday; 13th should also be declared a holiday.

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : We want a holiday on 13th.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will see.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will inform the Minister. Let us see.

AN HON. MEMBER : Will she react ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She has to. She has noted and she has discussed.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Do you agree, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I can't agree. Madam has to. I will convey your feelings to the Minister.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You are supreme

AN HON. MEMBER : We want a Ruling, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will consult the Speaker also and then I will let you know.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : They have to consult other Members also because what happened last time, you know.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had asked for a reply. We have first grade fertile land in our area but sand has been deposited there. Are the Government contemplating some scheme to remove that sand ? What is the difficulty in according approval to the Punpun Dardha Project of the C.W.C. ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister has not yet started. Why are you speaking ? No, no. Now, Mr. Shankaranand may continue.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We cannot allow everything like that.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1987-88—
Contd.

Ministry of Water Resources—Contd.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARA-

NAND) : Sir, I was dealing with the water resources, and I am grateful to the House that the Members are in a mood to support any proposal of enacting a law in order to discipline this vital developmental exercise of the country, as I read out the Constitutional provisions concerning the water resources development and management of water resource development as far as the inter-State rivers are concerned. Sir, I share the concern of all the Members who spoke about the projects to be taken in their constituencies, in their areas or the slow process of implementation by the State Governments of the various projects. All the hon. Members, as I can understand them, are keen to see that their area developed and I give my full support also.

AN HON. MEMBER : Without money, Sir ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Money, as I told, is under the constitutional provisions. (Interruptions) But allocations are made in the State Budget. The State fixes up all the priorities. They are the people who decide the priorities of the projects to be taken and accordingly plan provisions are made in respect of each projects. We do support the State Governments in order to get more money specially for this critical sector of irrigation and water resources development. But, as I told, the on-going projects—I can point out to the hon. Members as to what is the position of the on-going projects in the country. The projects completed up to the end of the Sixth Plan, I will give you. Andhra Pradesh has completed 5 major projects up to the end of the Sixth Plan, till the end of the Sixth Plan. The ongoing projects which are spilled over to the Seventh Plan are 14. They have not come up with any new project in this. Sir, if I can point out the outlay, it is very interesting to note...

SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY (Nandyal) : What are the 5 projects which have been completed ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : If I go on reading about all the 24 States, perhaps, I need the whole day to reply. I have the information but for shortage of time, I will not be able to give you. But I will

certainly supply the names of the projects to the hon. Member.

Andhra Pradesh has to face a spill over cost of Rs. 4,111 crores to complete these ongoing projects. The State Government has to provide Rs. 4,111 crores and the approved outlay for the 7th Plan for A.P. is Rs. 1,182 crores. Even for the completion of the ongoing projects, the State Government needs Rs. 4,111 crores as against the approved Plan outlay of Rs. 1,182 crores. This is the case not only for Andhra Pradesh but also for Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

For Assam, the spill over cost is Rs. 99 crores. But the outlay is much more than this spill over cost, i.e. Rs. 137 crores. For Gujarat, the approved outlay for the 7th Plan is Rs. 1,469.09 crores whereas the spill over cost in the 7th Plan is Rs. 4,982 crores. Gujarat also has not suggested any new project. About Karnataka, the approved outlay for the 7th Plan is Rs. 523 crores whereas the spill over cost is Rs. 1,877 crores. For Madhya Pradesh, the approved outlay for the 7th Plan is Rs. 1375.92 crores whereas the spill over cost is Rs. 3,297 crores. (Interruptions)

The Plan outlay is in respect of irrigation only. For Maharashtra, the approved outlay for the 7th Plan is Rs. 1320 crores, as against the spill over cost of Rs. 3947 crores. In regard to Rajasthan, the approved outlay for the 7th Plan is Rs. 635.46 crores and the spill over cost is Rs. 1700 crores.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA (Hassan) : I think, the projects which are not cleared are not covered under the scheme.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am just giving information about the ongoing projects. They may include approved projects also. As I have told you, 73 projects are ongoing projects and approved projects are included in that. For Uttar Pradesh, of course, there is not much difference. The approved outlay is Rs. 1,420 crores whereas the spill-over cost is Rs. 2,023 crores. This is the position. (Interruptions)

In Kerala, the difference is very little. The approved outlay is Rs. 280 crores whereas the spill-over cost is Rs. 360 crores. (Interruptions)

The approved outlay for the Seventh Plan of Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 1,182.30 crores as against the spill-over cost of Rs. 4,111 crores.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : What about Tamil Nadu ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : In Tamil Nadu, the approved outlay is much more than the spill-over cost. Tamil Nadu is in a good position.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We are in a good position. Please tell us.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : In Tamil Nadu, the approved outlay is Rs. 212 crores as against the spill-over cost of Rs. 120 crores.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV (Madhepura) : What about Bihar ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : In Bihar, the approved outlay is Rs. 1,285 crores whereas the spill-over cost is Rs. 1,707 crores. (Interruptions)

For Arunachal Pradesh, the approved outlay is Rs. one crore. The spill-over cost is nothing.

In spite of the fact, that no new projects have been taken up by the Union Territories, the new projects taken up in the country are 18 major and 66 medium projects. I did not mention about the on-going medium-projects. There are medium projects which are on-going which total up to 433. This is the position in the States and still I sympathise with hon. Members who come up for taking up new projects in their areas. Many Members have raised their voice for setting up new projects in their areas. I purposely gave this information so that they know where they stand or, they know where they are placed by the State Governments. (Interruptions)

Now I come to the minor irrigation projects because minor irrigation is doing

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better and we have certain Centrally-sponsored schemes in the development of minor irrigation sector. The Centrally-sponsored schemes are—for the benefit of hon. Members I shall quote. I should inform the House what are the Centrally-sponsored schemes in the minor irrigation sector.

“Strengthening of ground water and surface water organisation in the States and Union Territories. This is a continuing scheme from the Sixth Plan under which State Governments and Union Territories will be given Central assistance on 50:50 basis for the purchase of machinery and equipment for strengthening of ground water and surface water organisations. This Central assistance is available.”

The Plan outlay for the Seventh Plan is Rs. 25 crores for this purpose. The States have to give 50 per cent...

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Even if the States are giving Rs. 25 crores, it will come to only Rs. 50 crores.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Even that is not utilised. (*Interruptions*) I am coming to that. Then, the outlay proposed for this purpose for the current year is Rs. 5.25 crores. The second thing is encouraging irrigation through the use of sprinklers, drip systems, hydrams, water-turbines etc. This is also a continuing scheme from the Sixth Plan to this Plan. It has been restricted to small and marginal farmers only. Subsidy available under the Scheme is 25 per cent for small farmers; 33-1/3 per cent for marginal farmers and 50 per cent for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe farmers and cooperative/community schemes. The amount of subsidy is also to be shared by the States on 50:50 basis. The Seventh Plan outlay for this is Rs. 10 crores and the provision for the current year is Rs. 2 crores. We want to start a scheme called “Census of Minor Irrigation Scheme”. We have approved it. The Ministry has approved the Centrally sponsored scheme for continuing all minor irrigation schemes with the following objectives : (i) to enumerate completely the sources

of minor irrigation in the States and the Union Territories. (ii) to assess the source-wise area irrigated during the Kharif, Rabi and Summer seasons and (iii) to assess the contribution of these minor irrigation sources by way of new irrigation and as supplementary irrigation sources. The estimated expenditure for this purpose is Rs. 35 crores which will be fully borne by the Central Government.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, already there is a Scheme called the SMIP. You may be knowing better. It is called the Special Minor Irrigation Programme.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : But this is Census of the Minor Irrigation Schemes. (*Interruptions*) This is also of the Central Government. But this is for the purpose of the objective which I have enumerated just now. This is 100 per cent funded by the Central Government.

In order to narrow the gap between the potential creation and the potential utilisation, we have introduced this Centrally-sponsored Scheme which I have just now enumerated for the purpose of narrowing the gap. The Command Area Development was started at the beginning of the Fifth Five Year Plan. The Command Area Development Programme broadly covers on-farm development works which include construction of field channels; field drains, land-leveling and shaping, construction of farm-roads, consolidation of holdings, re-alignment of boundaries, introduction of warabandi system etc. About the financing of this *i.e.* as to how it is financed, I should say that the Command Area Development Authority has been established in about 132 Selected major and medium irrigation projects. The total culturable command area of these projects is 173 million hectares. This is interesting because how this programme is financed? This programme is financed by three sources—one is Central assistance to the extent of 50 per cent of the total expenditure of the States (ii) State's own resources and (iii) Institutional Finances. Grants on the matching basis are also available for the subsidy on loans of small and marginal farmers as I have just now said on the IRDP pattern for the purpose of purchase of infrastructural development like

landlevelling and shaping, construction of field channels and drains, sprinklers, drip irrigation system. Half of the cost of the construction of field channels from outlet to 5 to 8 blocks is shared between the State Governments and the Central Government. Besides, half of the cost on construction of field channels within 5-8 hectare blocks and construction of field drains is also provided in the form of 25 per cent as loan and 25 per cent as grant. The Central Government also provide 50% of the loan for the purpose of equipment and machinery for carrying out O.F.D. works, development of ground water, equity support to land development corporations and farmers service societies. A special loan account is also operated by NABARD for financing ineligible farmers which is shared by the Central Government, State Government and NABARD in the ratio of 37.5 : 37.5 : 25. I am giving this for the benefit of the Hon. Members to inform them how these programmes under the Command Area Development Programme are operated in their respective command areas of each Hon. Member's respective States.

During the 5th and the 6th Plan period, the main emphasis was given to the construction of infrastructure—infrastructure means creating field channels, land shaping, land levelling, construction of roads. That was the emphasis given during the 5th and the 6th Plans. In the 7th Plan the emphasis has been changed on the software inputs like improving the water management in the distribution system, efficient application of water in the fields, holding of productive trials, training of field staff and farmers, involvement of farmers in the management of water distribution system at minor level and maintenance of OFD works below the outlets. Farmers' participation has been encouraged under this programme.

This being the situation about the projects and efforts that are being made to narrow the gap between the potential created and the potential utilised. Now concern has been shown by Hon. Members with regard to the devastation caused by floods and miseries caused by drought, While speaking on the floods, I wish to say that an average of about one lakh cattle and 1448 human lives were lost annually from 1953 to 1985. The average of the

total damage in the country over the same period was put at Rs. 626 crores.

The National Flood Commission which is known as Rashtriya Badh Ayog assessed the area liable to floods as 40 million hectares of which it considered 32 million hectares only as protectable. So far reasonable protection could be given to an area of about 13.24.

At this stage I wish to give the achievement by the flood protection measures in the country. They are : Length of embankments constructed upto 1980—12045 kilometre. During 1980-85—2117 kilometers which is coming to a total of 14162 kilometers of embankments. The length of drainage channels constructed by the end of the Sixth Plan is 26119 kilometers. Towns protected are 375 and the number of villages raised is 4,696. The expenditure incurred by the end of the 6th Plan is Rs. 1739.97 crores and the area protected is 130.06 lakh hectares. Now, in this case it looks surprising that inspite of this achievement that we have made—inspite of the flood control measures—every year the damages are more and the flood relief is also more and the area sought for flood protection is also more.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon) : How do you explain that ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The only explanation that can be given and validly given in this regard is that the more the protection for flood prone area the more the human activities are going on those flood prone areas. This can be seen in Delhi. There is lot of housing construction going on in this flood prone area across the river Yamuna. We are taking flood protection measures also. The moment some protection is given the land value goes up and the human economic development activity of the people starts increasing. It is only when we interfere with the natural flow of the river that floods cause havoc and much harm is done and many lives are lost.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Why don't we find a permanent solution to this ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : May I inform the hon. Members that long ago we had circulated a model Bill for the benefit of the States so that they may pass legislation on those lines to prevent recurrence or stopping of those losses on account of floods. We circulated this model Bill a decade ago. It was in 1975. It was circulated to all the States.

AN HON. MEMBER : It has become obsolete by lapse of time.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Now it is only the experience teaching the States. Last year you know what happened at Dowleiswaram in Andhra Pradesh. Thanks to the flood forecasting machinery which worked efficiently they could save many lives in that area. All including the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh praised the machinery which worked day and night. I wish the States take this as a lesson and enact a law in order to prevent these ravages.

Now in order to support the State Governments the Central loan assistance to the States for flood control and anti-sea erosion is also provided. The Central Government has given special loan assistance for some selected areas of flood control in the States. They are anti-sea erosion works in Kerala. Since 1972 upto March 1986 a loan assistance of Rs. 37.12 crores has been provided to Kerala. The amount proposed for loan assistance during Seventh Plan is Rs. 12.50 crores. During 1986-87 an amount of Rs. 2.50 crores has been released.

Yesterday an hon. Member from Orissa had raised the point about Rengali dam in Orissa. Sir, the Central Government has been providing assistance for flood control component of the Rengali dam project in Orissa which is a multi-purpose project with specific flood control benefits. We have been providing funds for the flood control measures and the distribution system is to be looked after by the State Government. The cost of the project is Rs. 141.50 crores and flood control share is of the order of Rs. 42.24 crores. The loan assistance is being provided since Fourth Plan and Rs. 38.22 crores have been made available to the State Government up to March 1986

as against the total expenditure of Rs. 137.82 crores incurred by the State. The amount proposed for Central loan assistance during the Seventh Plan is Rs. 7.50 crores. During 1986-87, an amount of Rs. 3.21 crores has been released.

Now, flood control work in the Brahmaputra valley. Sir, we have been providing Central loan assistance to the State; outside the State plan of Assam State, since 1974-75. The loan assistance provided to the State up to March 1986 was Rs. 127 crores and the amount proposed during the Seventh Plan is Rs. 70 crores. During 1986-87, an amount of Rs. 13.50 crores has been released.

So also for the benefit of the Bihar Members, I should say that Jalpaiwh protection work, which is part of Kosi flood protection scheme, is being executed in the territory of Nepal by Bihar Government itself as per the recommendations of the Kosi High Level Committee. Government of India is providing assistance for execution of the protection work as Nepal-benefit works in the form of grant-in-aid which is being provided to the State Government of Bihar since 1972-73. A sum of Rs. 836 lakhs has been released by the Government of India on this scheme till the end of March 1986. The amount released for the work during 1986-87 is Rs. 72 lakhs.

Sir, I will come to the Brahmaputra Board a little later. I remember that with regard to the Brahmaputra Board, an observation has been made. One of the hon'ble Members has observed that it is handless.

That means, there is no Chairman for the Brahmaputra Board. I should submit to the House that till very recently, the Chairman was there but he resigned for the reasons best known to him. It has 17 members—if I remember correctly. The Brahmaputra Board, which started functioning in 1982, has 17 members representing the States and Union Territories of the North-Eastern region, North-Eastern Council and concerned Ministries and other such agencies of the Government.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kalibor) : Who is the Chairman now ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : One of the members of the Central Water Commission is looking after his job. The process of recruiting the Chairman is on. If the Hon'ble Member has anyone his view, let him apply.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : He has got many, Sir. Why not give him ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I said, let him apply.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : No Chairman is there; no Secretary is there !

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : On a point of information, Sir. Is it a fact that for the last five years, this Board has succeeded only in preparing some plan; nothing substantial, nothing concrete...

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Technically yes.

The hon. Member who comes from Assam himself should know that this is a mighty river with more than forty tributaries and many of them are equal to many big rivers in this country. This is a gigantic river, to tame it, moderate it and to survey and investigate it is not a small job...*(Interruptions)*. Perhaps the Government of Assam should be grateful to the Government of India because the entire flood control measures which is the work of the State Government have been taken by the Centre...*(Interruptions)*. The hon. Members should know what will happen if the Centre ceases to spend money on this scheme. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : It is the responsibility of the Central Government. How can the State Government do it ?

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : I remind Mr. Shankaranand of the history behind this scheme. There was a long struggle by the people of Assam and the Members of Parliament and ultimately the Central Government agreed that the State Government cannot manage it, the Central would

have to manage it. It is a national river, national waterway, not a State waterway, and you have to do it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order, Please.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : May I say to the hon. Members of Assam that they must thank the Central Government on this account, for having taken up this project as a national waterway ?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : We thank you for that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No interruptions please. That is enough.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : They must thank the Government of India for having taken up this work.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : We do that.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : The Minister should know that in the course of last year alone, thousands of acres of land have been allowed by Brahmaputra and we thank you for that...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI M.R. SAIKIA : You are boasting that the flood control responsibility has been taken over by the Central Government. It is your responsibility. The people of Assam are angry because they have been neglected, and step-motherly treatment meted out to them. What step have you taken so far to tame the mighty Brahmaputra river with its forty tributaries ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The hon. Members from Assam are angry, but I am not I have my responsibility to the nation. I mean, the Government of India has the responsibility of the nation...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No interruptions, please listen to him.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am not yielding to anybody. I myself have gone

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and seen. It is not that I am speaking in the Chamber of Lok Sabha, without any knowledge. I have myself visited Brahma-putra in fury... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not the only project, there are a number of projects and there is a financial constraint. There are many projects not only irrigation; if you take many departments, you will come across several problems.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, very recently the Chairman has resigned and one of the Members of the Central Water Commission is looking after this post and a process of recruiting the Chairman is on. Perhaps everything has to be done according to the rule and law.

Sir, by this I want to end this topic by saying that what is the amount that we have spent for flood control work, an expenditure of about Rs. 976 crores was incurred on the flood control sector in the country since the launching of the programme in 1954 upto March 1980.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : Will the Minister be kind enough to give a copy of the master plan drawn up by the Brahmputra Board ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir the master plan consist of some 4 or 5 big volumes and they are highly technical.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : Put it in the library.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : If the Hon. Member is interested in studying the technical aspect of the survey and investigation, I think we will have to help.

Up till in Seventh Plan Rs. 2072.52 crores have been spent as the relief till March, 1987. A legitimate question can be asked, and Members have asked whether this increasing assistance which is coming in the way of flood relief to the States can very well be dovetailed into the expenditure of development for flood control programmes. It is a good question. But, I should say that ravages do take place when the people lose their lives, livestock and the property

and for the immediate rehabilitation this money is to be spent and not only for flood but this can be taken into account when we come to the drought relief programmes, when this question of drought management comes with the States. The National Institute of Hydrology at Roorkee has been helping in order to guide train and the State Government and the officials in order to manage the drought and flood relief. And one Seminar took place last year, perhaps in Mysore, for the benefit of the Southern States and this Seminar did give some guidance to the management authorities of the drought.

Now, Sir, during Sixth Plan period an amount of Rs. 1388 crores was sanctioned as ceiling of central assistance to various States for drought relief works. The broad estimates indicate that about 15 per cent of the cultivable area in the drought affected regions is irrigated as against the country's average of 22 per cent. According to the assessment made in the beginning of the Sixth plan, the scheme and the execution when completed will likely to bring 1/5th of the cultivable area under irrigation.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is going to make a general statement now.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Sir, generally the help, especially for drought and floods is given on the basis of memoranda which are received by the States, but there are some States, Sir, which due to their carelessness or due to other things, they could not send the memoranda as happened in Uttar Pradesh last year.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then they will not get the funds. That is all ! If they are so careless, what can the Minister do ?

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I request the hon. Minister that he himself should create a machinery to see and decide as to which State requires help. There should be a national machinery to look after the drought and flood related aspects in the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now you want to nationalise droughts and floods too.

SHRI K.S. RAO : That is being thought of.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : 20 per cent of our country's drought affected area is in Karnataka itself. And it is not my statement. It is an assessment made by the Government of India. What is the permanent remedy suggested ?

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Then what about Rajasthan ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The remedy is not a simple remedy. It is a very complex one and it cannot be stated now just like that.

Now, I come to the problem of water logging because some members have raised it especially with regard to Sharada Sahayak Project. According to the available information, the extent of water logging in the country is spread over about six million hectares. The criteria adopted by the States to decide as to which is the area under water logging, vary from State to State. Whatever be the reasons, I should say now about the factors that are responsible for water logging. These are, firstly seepage from the main canal branches, distribution branches and feed channels; secondly heavy rainfall leading to recharging of water; third, excessive use of irrigation water in the field leading to depercolation; and fourthly absence of well-connecting network of drainage system.

The remedies are many. I have issued guideliner to the State Governments regarding this. In this regard, when I come to the Sharda Sahayak Project, I will be able to give you the details of action that we have taken so far. Sir, it is a problem as far as certain Northern States are concerned, where the water management is not properly done and consideration is not given to the conjunctive use of water. Proper investigations have not been made even at the stage of plan formulation and project formulation. Unless there is proper management of water and unless water is used in a scientific manner, this problem cannot be done away with.

With regard to tribal development, we have requested the State Governments to

have some provision which will be of benefit to tribal development as well as development of scheduled castes. I have already given the details of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme which is beneficial for these people.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Is it for development or rehabilitation ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : It is for development. Rehabilitation is for everybody whether they be Scheduled Tribes people or non-Scheduled Tribes people. Whoever happen to be living in an area which is going to be submerged, they have to be rehabilitated.

I have taken much of the time of the House. Now I come to the inter-state water disputes. Earlier I have mentioned the Constitutional provisions which are within the State List and which are within the Union List. And the mood of the House in this respect was very constructive and encouraging and there was a view that water should be put in the Concurrent List and that inter-state rivers should be nationalised. But it just cannot be done like that because it is not only a question of nationalising rivers, but it is also involves the question of entire planning and the entire inter-state relations. This is a very complicated thing.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is hightime that we do all these things. When we want unity in diversity, and when we are all for national integration, water also should be nationalised.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Where there is a dispute, at least, it should be put in the Concurrent List.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Let them do in the interest of the nation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : As I have already said that the water resources development programmes are planned in the States. They are funded by the States. The allocations are made in the State Budget—State Plans. When the funds are there in the State Plans and the Centre is taking the responsibility of developing the

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Inter-State rivers, what will happen? It is not just like that. It is a matter which the States and the Centre should consider seriously.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : If the Centre wants to take the powers to develop the drought prone States and the backward States, then we agree and not otherwise. Just for the sake of taking over, if you do it, we won't agree...

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, Members have spoken about the regional imbalance. The question of regional imbalance comes when enough activities are not generated regarding the water resources development, in spite of the availability of resources and water and possibility of taking up such projects in the respective States. Where there is no water or where there is scarcity of water in any particular area of this country, where there is surplus water, then, it should be the duty of all concerned that this surplus water should be taken to the deficit area. In order to find out this solution, there have been many suggestions like linking Cauvery to Ganga, national grid regional grid etc. And there is also a suggestion regarding Garland Canal by Dastur and Dr. K.L. Rao's Ganga-Cauvery link. All these things have been examined. Ganga-Cauvery link suggested by Dr. K.L. Rao was technically feasible. It was economically not feasible.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Why do you go in for economics as far as water is concerned? We should not see the economic point of view.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am coming to that. Perhaps, the hon. Members are aware...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What we are spending for drought and floods; that money can be utilised for developmental purposes.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : It is not only the water that is available, but we

must also try to take the means to bring that water to use. Where do we have that much of power which is required to lift that water and bring it here? We are already facing power shortage. You must know all these aspects. Having studied this, we have prepared a national perspective. For that we have come forth with a National Water Development Agency which has undertaken the work of identifying the linkages of rivers in the peninsular areas—peninsular rivers. We have already taken up that and certain sites of linkages have been found out. This work is going on. But the question is, as Mr. Nanje Gowda the hon. Member from Karnataka has suggested, that you have to define what is the surplus river basin and what is the deficit river basin and for that certain criteria have been given. I agree that the hon. Member is right, when he said that 52 members and odd gave representation to the Government which should be considered at the time of formulation of the National Water Policy. We have considered it and whatever was feasible and unanimously acceptable to the Council—group of Ministers,—including the Chief Minister of Karnataka, who is responsible for the formulation and drafting of the policy papers which is now being placed before the National Council, this representation was examined and whatever has been unanimously acceptable to the group of Ministers has been brought into the National Water Policy Paper which is being prepared. It is now before the National Water Resources Council which is headed by the Prime Minister himself. It was to meet in the month of January-February. But it was postponed. Very soon we are meeting. That National Policy will be discussed by the Council as a whole and after acceptance by the Council, that will come before this House for discussion and adoption by the Parliament. In this regard, when the States feel that their interest is not protected by certain action taken by other States who are involved in the common river basin, dispute arises. The instant case is the Telgu-Ganga, Cavery and some others.

Regarding Telgu-Ganga, I should say, the subject has been discussed in this House more than once. The main question is availability of water which has been raised by Karnataka and Maharashtra. Unless

there is water, no project can be cleared. That is their contention. And if at all, the Central Water Commission or the Planning Commission has to clear any project, the availability of water must be established first before it is otherwise technically feasible and economically viable. After this if there is any submergence of forests, that has to be cleared by the Ministry of Forests and Environment. This is what is involved. Unnecessarily motives have been attributed in this. It is most unfortunate. The Government of India cannot afford to lose utilisable water.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : I would like to make one clarification.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has not yet completed. Let him complete.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, let me make myself clear to the House. I sincerely made efforts to find out the solution by talking to all the three Chief Ministers of Andhra, Karnataka and Maharashtra personally. I myself went to the house of Shri N.T. Rama Rao twice... (Interruptions) Are you angry because I have not come to you? I will also come to you. But don't get angry because I have not come to you. Since he is taking an exception for my going and talking to NTR, it is relevant because I wanted to talk to him. I said you have to come and convince other Chief Ministers who have taken objection. We will help finding a solution if at all we can convince the parties concerned and the process is on. I do not want to give my opinion on the Floor of the House which will come in the way of negotiation aimed at finding a solution. I hope the House will appreciate my stand. I do not want to say anything which will be interpreted or misinterpreted by any of the parties concerned with the dispute. This is what the position is. I am still trying.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Andhra Pradesh is not demanding anything. It just wants to know the position about the implementation of the Bachawat Award. Andhra Pradesh only wants 29

TMC ft. for the Telugu Ganga project. A lot of water is going into the sea.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The hon. Member should know that Maharashtra and Karnataka have taken objection.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : The hon. Minister is forgetting one thing : four years back, in the presence of Shrimati Indira Gandhi... (Interruptions)...

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I must say this : to be fair to all the States, I must listen to all concerned; and then, whatever possible can be done. (Interruptions)

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Water was to be given to Madras. (Interruptions)

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL (Gulbarga) : An impression is being created...

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool) : Lord Shankarji is kind at heart but you are not clearing the Telugu-Ganga Project. It is a question of providing water to crores of people. Whether you went to Shri Rama Rao or to somebody else, we have nothing to do with that. We want this matter to be settled soon. This is a serious problem concerning water.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seats. If all of you stand and go on speaking, how will the Minister hear? If one Member speaks, the Minister will hear; and then he will answer. (Interruptions)

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : According to the Bachawat Award... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Shankaranand, is your reply over? (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All these things will not go on record. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The impression that is being created here in this House and also outside is that deliberately Government of India is delaying the clearance of the Telugu Ganga project. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : That is correct, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The difficulty is that most of the hon. Members do not know what is the procedure involved in clearing a project, across an inter-State river. For instance, I can quote my own experience. In 1964 when I was the Irrigation Minister in Karnataka, I had submitted several projects across the river Kaveri; and the projects are continuing in Karnataka. But till this date, not a single project across the Kaveri river in Karnataka has been cleared by Government of India. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, have you finished? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I still desist from saying anything which will be interpreted as going against the interests of any particular State. I still desist. I can say certain things; but that will block the negotiating activities and exercises. Otherwise, I have many facts before me. *(Interruptions)* At this moment, I beg of the House not to pressurize me into telling certain things which may be interpreted as being against the interests of any particular State, *i.e.* if I say something which I do not want to say. *(Interruptions)* Even at the cost of my being misunderstood, I do not want to say anything which will harm the interests of any particular State concerned with the dispute. I do not want to say it.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Is the Telugu-Ganga scheme according to the Bachawat Award or against it? I would like the Central Government to clarify this.

[English]

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Before the government invites the three Chief

Ministers to the negotiating table, I would like the Government of India to examine it because they are telling 29 TMC ft. We have a technical expert to examine whether to draw 29 TMC ft. including 15 TMC ft. of drinking water. It requires 17,150 cusecs. What is their ultimate aim? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : You can take our water not... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : How can he take your water? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We want only drinking water. *(Interruptions)* All the three Chief Ministers agreed. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I will not yield to anybody. Will you please listen to me? The hon member has put a question whether it is according to Bachawat Award, within the parameter of Bachawat Award. The Karnataka Government and the Maharashtra Government say, no. *(Interruptions)* I am unable to make myself clear. I plead my inability to convince the hon. members. *(Interruptions)* I have not made myself clear to you. I come to the question of Cauvery water dispute. *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Smt. Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool) : The late Shrimati Indiraji had laid the foundation stone of Telugu Ganga Project. At least you should execute this work to keep her promise. *(Interruptions)*

We want to take our share of water. What objection do they have to it?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : You will get your share of water. How it can go to others?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : An

exercise had taken place to solve the issue mutually by the two Chief Ministers. Many meetings were held but they could not find out any solution.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : All the bilateral talks failed. Under the Inter-State Water Dispute Act 1956, under Section 4, you were to appoint a tribunal immediately. (Interruptions)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, the Government of India has made all its efforts to resolve the dispute between the respective States of the Cauvery basin. Tamil Nadu has written to the Central Government for the appointment of a Tribunal. Immediately after my holding a meeting of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Chief Ministers at Bangalore last year they have said nothing has been achieved by these negotiations and a Tribunal must be appointed and a reference has been made.

For any water dispute as is in this country anyone appreciate if it is solved amicably, by mutual understanding and agreement without losing any part of the interests of any States. The experience of tribunals with us is, if I can inform the Hon'ble House, the experience of the Tribunals is, that the Tribunals have always taken, in this country eight, nine to ten years ! As a matter of fact the Krishna Tribunal took about seven years to give its Award from 1969 to 1976, the Godavari Tribunal took eleven years from 1969 to 1980 the Narmada Tribunal took ten years from 1969 to 1979. This has been the experience. Perhaps we thought that both the States Governments may agree on certain respects and I tried to narrow the gap of disagreement to find out any area of agreement to a certain extent so that the rest of the matter can be left to any other deciding body. That process is on. I hope, the House will appreciate this—I do not know what will happen...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is high time that a tribunal is appointed. We tried our level best.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am coming to it.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We tried for the last 16 years. It is our birthright to take water from Cauvery.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : That is your right.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Please do not deny that right. Why are you denying it ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am not denying. We are not denying. I am just coming to it.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : There is nothing wrong in setting up a tribunal.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Let not the hon. Member misunderstand me. I am not saying that we are not going to appoint a tribunal. I am not saying that.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : You were telling us, 'it is under consideration', 'it is under consideration' for the last one year. I have brought so many letters from our Chief Minister, and also from our Chief Minister to the Prime Minister also.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : It is true. I have not said anything against. It is not that I am denying.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : We are also not against solving this dispute, even if it is referred to the Tribunal.

The problem is, it is the responsibility of the Government of India to enunciate the National Water Policy and re-draft the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, because there are no guidelines at all. Let there be justice.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Let them appoint the tribunal. You are consuming all the water in the Cauvery.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : You are consuming the water.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur) : May I know, the State average of erosion in respect of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : You appoint a tribunal.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Please, please, listen.

I have not said it, It is not my contention that the Government is not going to appoint it. We are not saying it. We have not said that. We have not said so.

The question is, I said, that there are certain projects in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka which are waiting clearance. If the tribunal is appointed, all those activities which are sought to be implemented under various projects of both the States will come to a grinding halt. The entire developmental process will come to a standstill. This we want to avoid. The House should appreciate this fact. I am not opposed to appointing a tribunal if it comes to that. But the question is whether we are to bring out ways and means to bring the two parties to the table and resolve the differences or appointing the tribunal is the only course and in case of that what happens. That is the only thing I wanted to say at this moment. I have not expressed my opinion either on this side or that side. I said that the process of narrowing down the area of dispute, if it could be found out and ultimately resolved, is welcome; otherwise, the law will take its own course.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : You will be knowing fully well that we were unable to find out a solution in the last 16 years. Do you think that you will find a solution in another two or three months? It is a life and death question for Tamil Nadu.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I do not say that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : We are hearing the same reply for the last two years. I want to know how many years you will require to solve this problem. We are hearing the same sort of reply 'we will do it, we will do it'.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : The Government of India, without the knowledge of Maharashtra and Karnataka, cleared illegally that Srisalem Right Bank Canal Project. That is why they are talking like this,

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Kindly speak about Icchampalli Project also.

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The law will take its own course to solve this dispute and whatever the law requires, we will do that...*(Interruptions)*

I have taken much time of the House. All those 52 Members who have made their points I have replied to that. Regarding the suggestions that they have made and the issues that they have raised, a part of that I have replied. Regarding the issues raised by the Members with reference to particular projects in their respective areas, perhaps, I would write to the State Government about what they have said and will try to help their areas which will ultimately be in the interest of the entire country.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : Please say something on the Ganga basin.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The hon. Member has raised a very important point. One hon. Member from West Bengal has asked for taking steps on the problem caused by land erosion by as many as six rivers in Murshidabad District of West Bengal in a total stretch of 120 metres.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond-Harbour) : 120 kms.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Yes, you are right 120 kms.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There is a difference between kilometres and metres.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I want to be taught by you. Mr. Datta, I never thought that you would be in a position to teach kilometres and metres.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : 120 metres we could have looked after ourselves. Since it is 120 kms we have asked for your help.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I think only you know the difference between kilometres and metres and nobody else in this House.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : If you do not understand, what can I do ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : When you are in the habit of talking something which you alone understand, what can I do ?

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : You give us an assurance.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : It is not a question of giving an assurance, it is a question of the responsibility of the country taken up by the Government of India... (Interruptions). In certain reaches along the Jangipura bundh, which separates the Padma and the Bhagirathi, there has been erosion of the right bank of the Padma and necessary measures for the protection of the bundh to prevent entry of Padma waters into the Bhagirathi are being taken by the Farakka Barrage Project. For this work, about Rs. three crores have been spent during the Sixth Plan and an estimate for about Rs. 16 crores has been accepted recently... (Interruptions).

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Is it in the Plan, Sir.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, in Canares there is a proverb which I do not want to tell him here, I will tell him separately.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, just now the Minister has said that a plan for Rs. 16 crores has been accepted. When is it going to be implemented ? That is what we are actually interested in.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : You just wait, it will be implemented.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : How long shall we wait ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : You wait and it will be implemented.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : How long shall we wait, you tell us.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I am not here to give you answers. It is not that you put a question and I will reply to you... (Interruptions). I am not yielding, Sir... (Interruptions)

Members have raised issues regarding drinking water, coordination between various Ministries, irrigation cost, rehabilitation, land acquisition, compensation to be paid, ground water development, various projects and their clearance, diversion of west-flowing rivers, river linking. Regarding the various individual projects which they have asked, whether it is Sharda Sahayak, Rengali, Narmada Sagar, Sardar Sarovar, Indira Nahar or other projects, I will only tell that we are taking steps to see that the fears of the hon. Members are alleviated and we will support the States in whatever way it is possible. I thank the hon. Members for having supported the Demand.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Water Resources to vote together, unless Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

Do you want to put your cut motions separately ?

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Sir, as far as the cut motions are concerned, I would like to make a request. These cut motions were given and they were printed and circulated to all Members. If Member moves them here in the House, they will be published also. Rule 209 says that the Member moving the cut motions will be allowed to speak on the motions. Even in the agenda also further discussion on cut motions is there. So, will you give me an opportunity to speak on one or two cut motions ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Cut motions you have moved and based on that, the Members have participated and the discussion has taken place. If you had asked at that time, I would have given you the opportunity to speak. But just at the end if you want to speak separately, how can I do it ?

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, when he is pressing a cut motion, he must be given an opportunity to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : At that time if he had asked, I would have given him the opportunity.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : You have asked him whether he is pressing his cut motions or not. When he is pressing, he can say something with regard to the cut motions. He must be given an opportunity. It is also permissible under law.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right, what do you want to say ?

Do you want all your cut motions to be put to vote together or separately ? That is all that you can say.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I want to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are cut motion Nos. 8 to 23. Do you want to Press ? That is all.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I want to know, under Rule 209, have I a right to speak on cut motions or not ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You cannot make a debate on that.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : You read the rule and then give a ruling. Rule 209 says—

“A motion may be moved to reduce the amount of a demand in any of the following ways :

- (a) “that the amount of the demand be reduced to Rs. 1 representing disapproval of the policy underlying the demand. Such a motion shall be known as “Disapproval of Policy Cut”. A member giving notice of such a motion shall indicate ”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only on the point of cut motions, you can say. But you cannot have a discussion on that.

Only on the point of cut motion if you want to say, you can do that. Only that point.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I am not going to make a speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only on that point.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Cut motion No. 8 which I have given reads :

“Abnormal and deliberate delay in giving clearance to Telugu Ganga Project by Central Water Commission.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : On this kind of cut motion you could have spoken when the debate was taking place. Because you have given cut motion, you have a right to speak. I am accepting that. But at that time you could have spoken. Now that stage is over. After the Minister's reply, if you have not spoken at that stage and if you want to speak now, if you want to create a new precedent, I do not think it is proper.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Do I have a right ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You could have spoken previously.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Why ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the debate was taking place, you could have spoken.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I could speak only when the cut motions are taken up, not earlier.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The debate is only for that. Based on cut motions, the discussion took place.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : On that point alone he can speak. He has got the right to speak

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We are not going to revive the whole issue.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : On that point, he has got, a right to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has a right. But before the Minister, he could have spoken. That is my point.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : The Rule does not say that I should have spoken before the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I would have allowed you at that time, not at this time.

You have a right to speak. I am accepting, but before the Minister's reply, it would have mattered. Now the Minister has given the reply.

I am asking, for voting purposes, are you insisting or not? That is the thing I am asking. That is all. I cannot allow you to speak. If you want to press for voting. I will allow, otherwise not.

You have a right under Rule 209. But you have a right at that stage and not at this stage.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Do you mean to say that I have a right to speak only before the Minister?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before the Minister's speech.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Please read it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before the Minister's speech you have a right to speak and not after that. After the Minister's speech, it is only voting on the cut motions that takes place.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Are you implementing this Rule or not?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am implementing. I am only asking you whether you want your cut motions to be put to vote separately.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Where is it stated in Rule 209?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not disputing that. But you could have spoken before the Minister's speech. Why did you not insist on speaking at that stage. You could have spoken earlier. Now you are asking.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : When the cut motions are taken up, only then I could rise up and say, I want to speak. I cannot speak during general discussion. I can only speak when cut motions are taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Already we had taken up. Discussion stage is over. Already discussion is over. Now it is voting stage. At voting stage, I would not allow another discussion. Simply voting I will allow. I will not allow any discussion.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : When can I speak?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Not now.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : When?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That stage is over. Only voting now. Discussion is over. Minister's reply is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him press. I am not objecting his pressing. I would not allow another discussion as this stage.

Now, what I put before the House is—do you want all the cut motions to be put together to vote or you want to put any of them separately?

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I am not worried about the voting.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But you cannot speak now.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Then when will I get the right to speak on my cut motions?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have the right to speak. I am accepting that, but not at this stage. The hon. Minister's reply to the debate is already over. Only voting of the Grant is to be done. I am not allowing you to speak. There cannot be any discussion now. I do not want any clarification.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Please bear with me for a moment and kindly see the rules.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already seen the rules.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : I can speak on my point only when my motions are taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But that stage is over.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Please refer to rule 209. It is stated—

“A member giving notice of such a motion shall indicate in precise terms, the particulars of the policy which he proposes to discuss...”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please note the wording “giving notice...”. You have to give such a kind of notice, not after the reply to the debate by the hon. Minister is over. At the stage of voting, you cannot speak on your cut motions.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : If you don't allow me to speak on the cut motions.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : On the cut motions everybody spoke. Whether supporting or opposing the Demand, if you had insisted to speak before the Minister's reply to the debate, I would have allowed you to speak on your cut motions. Now, the voting stage has come and I cannot allow you to speak. That is my ruling.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Mr. Deputy Speaker has given his ruling on the point. Why are you going on raising questions ?

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : You allow me to speak now before the voting is done. Afterwards other Ministry's Demand will be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You could have spoken at that time, not at this stage.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Then my cut motions have no value at all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You could have spoken at that time. I would not have objected.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : The proper time to speak on the cut motions is when they are taken up by the Member concerned.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But not at this stage.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Water Resources to vote together, unless Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Water Resources to vote. The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1988, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 76 relating to the Ministry of Water Resources.”

The motion was adopted.

333 D.G., 87-88—Min. of CHAITRA 19, 1909 (SAKA) D.G., 87-88—Min. of 334
 Petroleum and Natural Gas Petroleum and Natural Gas
 Demand for Grant, 1987-88 in respect of Ministry of Water Resources voted by
 Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13th March, 1987		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Water Resources					
76.	Ministry of Water Resources	43,13,00,000	2,30,00,000	2,15,42,00,000	11,50,00,000

15.50 hrs.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—1987-88
 —Contd.

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 58 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for which 5 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion Moved :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1988, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 58 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.”

Demand for Grant, 1987-88 in respect of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
 submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13th March, 1987		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas					
58.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	98,00,000	1,94,51,00,000	4,91,00,000	2,41,32,00,000

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.