

The working class of Trichur have been desiring for the last 10 years to have a sub-regional office of the P. F. at Trichur. Even the then Central P. F. Commissioner had made an on the spot survey and selected a building. Somehow or other it has not been materialised.

The various Trade Unions and Association of Employers of this area have passed resolutions and submitted to Union Government recently.

Therefore, a branch office of the Employees Provident Fund may please be opened at Trichur for the working class of Trichur and Palghat districts for quick and timely receipt of their hard earned Provident Fund amount.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1983-84 MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we come to the next item. The House will continue the debate on the Demand for Grant under the control of the Ministry of Irrigation. Shri Ram Lal Rahi.

श्री रामलाल राही (मिसरिख) अधिष्ठाता महोदय, भारत कृषि प्रधान देश है। लगभग 80 फीसदी लोग खेती के काम से जुड़े हुए हैं। कृषि की उपज बढ़ाने के लिए उत्तम बीज और उर्वरक तब तक उपयोगी नहीं हैं जब तक सिंचाई के लिए समुचित पानी न मिल जाए। पानी उत्पादन बढ़ाने का मुख्य आधार है। आजादी के बाद प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना में जहां मात्र 456 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई थी, वहीं छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में 127 अरब रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। आधुनिक टेक्नालाजी को अपनाया जा रहा है। भूमिगत जल के सर्वेक्षण का कार्य भूमिगत जल बोर्ड कर रहा है। यह बोर्ड लगभग देश के आधे भाग का सर्वेक्षण कर चुका है। उत्तरप्रदेश, मध्यप्रदेश, असम बिहार, पश्चिमी बंगाल में भूमिगत के विपुल भण्डार मिले हैं। अभी सरकार को इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

सिंचाई की क्षमता का पूर्ण उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। आज नहरें रिस रही हैं और सिंचाई के काम आने वाला पानी नष्ट हो रहा है। इससे कृषि योग्य उपजाऊ भूमि भी नष्ट हो रही है। एशिया की सबसे बड़ी नहर "शारदा सहायक" भी पिछले 7-8 वर्षों में हजारों हेक्टर भूमि बरबाद कर चुकी है। यहां के किसान भुखमरी का शिकार हो रहे हैं। मुझे इस बात की प्रसन्नता है कि इस क्षेत्र के जागरूक किसानों ने लोकतांत्रिक समाजवादी पार्टी के कार्यकर्ताओं के साथ सीपेज की समस्या पर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। परिणामस्वरूप अभी तक 9 राज्यों में सीपेज से प्रभावित क्षेत्रों का पता चल पाया है जिसका रकबा लगभग 7 लाख हेक्टेयर से भी ज्यादा है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने स्वयं इसी सदन में यह जानकारी दी है। सीतापुर के लोगों को सरकार को बधाई देनी चाहिए कि प्रथम बार उन्होंने सीपेज की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है और लाखों हेक्टर भूमि जो सीपेज से बरबाद होती थी उसे बचाने का आग्रह किया है। इसका असर राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन पर पड़ता है। आज इस समस्या की ओर सरकार का ध्यान गया है। मेरी मांग है कि सीपेज से प्रभावित क्षेत्र को मुक्त कराने के लिए युद्ध स्तर पर कार्य प्रारंभ किया जाना चाहिए, जिससे कृषि भूमि नष्ट होने से बचाई जाए। प्रभावित क्षेत्र का लगान माफ किया जाए। इसके लिए मैंने पहले भी मांग की थी और आज फिर निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि निश्चित रूप से इस क्षेत्र का लगान माफ किया जाए तथा मुआवजा दिया जाए। जब तक कृषि क्षेत्र मुक्त न हो जब तक उस क्षेत्र में टैस्ट वर्क चलाए जाने चाहिए। मेरी निजी जानकारी है कि इस क्षेत्र की जमीन खराब हो गई है। कृषि पर निर्भर लोगों को काम नहीं मिल रहा है। इसलिए टैस्ट वर्क चलाए जाने चाहिए ताकि लोगों को काम मिले।

[श्री रामलाल राही]

इससे उनको खाने के साधन उपलब्ध हो सकेंगे।

मैंने प्रधान मंत्री जी और सिंचाई मंत्री जी को पत्र लिखा था। उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश के सिंचाई विभाग को कहा है कि वह शारदा सहायक नहरों के जलभराव की समस्या की ओर ध्यान दे। संभवतः केन्द्र सरकार उपग्रह के माध्यम से सर्वे भी करा रही है। मैं जिस इलाके में इस समस्या को लेकर पानी में बैठा था अभी तक केवल उसी का सर्वे कराया गया है। मेरा निवेदन है कि शारदा सहायक के लखीमपुर से लेकर जितने भी जिले प्रभावित हैं। उन सब जिलों का सीपेज का सर्वे कराया जाए। सीपेज की समस्या का समाधान किया जाना चाहिए। एक तरफ तो नहरों के पानी का नुकसान हो रहा है तो दूसरी तरफ बिजली के अभाव में भूमिगत जल दोहन की क्षमता को पूरा उपयोग नहीं हो पा रहा है। यदि देखा जाए तो नलकूप चाहे राजकीय हो या निजी या लिफ्ट पम्प हो, उनकी क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग बिजली के अभाव के कारण नहीं हो पा रहा है। इसलिए जरूरत इस बात की है कि आपने जितनी क्षमता सिंचाई की बनाई है या तैयार की है, उसका पूरा उपयोग करने के लिए कारगर तरीके से कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए। समुचित मात्रा में राजकीय या प्राइवेट नलकूपों और लिफ्ट पम्प के लिए बिजली की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए। इस देश के अनेक प्रान्तों व स्थानों पर जहां भी ज्यादा नदियाँ हैं वहाँ हर वर्ष बाढ़ की विनाशलीला होती है। गांव के गांव ढूँह जाते हैं। बाढ़-ग्रस्त इलाकों के लोग इतने तवाह और परेशान हो गए हैं जिससे उन्होंने अपने मकान बनाने ही छोड़ दिए हैं। लोग छप्पर डालकर और टट्टियाँ लगाकर ही घरों में गुजर-बसर करते हैं क्योंकि वे जानते हैं

कि हर साल मकान गिर जाते हैं और बाढ़ आना निरन्तर जारी है। जहाँ कभी बाढ़ नहीं आती थी, उन क्षेत्रों में भी बाढ़ आने लगी है। मैं भी मानता हूँ और आपने भी अनुभव किया होगा कि नदियों का धरातल ऊँचा हो रहा है। इसलिए जब बरसात होती है तो अधिक से अधिक जमीन डूब जाती है। इस सम्बन्ध में आपने नदियों के किनारे तट-बन्ध बनाने की भी व्यवस्था की है। जहाँ-जहाँ भी आपने बाँध बनाए हैं, वे कारगर नहीं हो पा रहे हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि इन तटबन्धों के लिए मिट्टी दूर से मंगवायी जाती है और ये नदियों से काफी दूर बनाए जाते हैं। मेरी इस संबंध में मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि यदि धरातल की मिट्टी या नदी के किनारे की मिट्टी इस्तेमाल करेंगे तो इससे नदी की गहराई और चौड़ाई बढ़ेगी तथा इससे पानी समेटने की नदी की क्षमता बढ़ जायेगी। इससे आपको दो फायदे होंगे। एक तो बाढ़ से बचाव होगा और दूसरा अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में नदी का पानी उपयोग के लिए मिलेगा जिसमें मछली पालन सिंचाई का कार्य और बिजली बनाने का काम भी हो सकता है।

सीतापुर जनपद में बिसवाँ और महमूदा-बाद तहसील का कुछ भाग हर साल बुरे तरीके से बाढ़ में प्रभावित होता है। इससे कगोड़ों रूपए की सम्पत्ति नष्ट होती है। इस वर्ष जहाँ पर पूरा गाजर का इलाका है, वहाँ खरीफ की फसल में एक भी दाना नहीं हो पाया है जिससे उस इलाके में भुखमरी फैली हुई है। वहाँ भी काफी नदियाँ हैं इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप सीतापुर जिले का भी सर्वे करा लें। जहाँ पर ज्यादा नदियाँ हैं, वहाँ तटबन्ध बनाने के बारे में एक योजना बनाएं जिससे बाढ़ पर काबू पाया जा सके। और किसानों को राहत पहुँचायी जा सके। इससे बाढ़ से होने वाला नुकसान नहीं हो सकेगा।

गोरखपुर जिले में राप्ती नदी के किनारे पर कोठा, बड़हिया और गिरौली में तटबन्ध के न बनने से लगभग 130 गाँव बुरे तरीके से बह लाते हैं। यहाँ तटबन्ध बन रहा था लेकिन कई बरस हो गए हैं अभी बीच में ही अधूरा पड़ा है। जब तक यह नहीं बनता है तब तक 130 गाँवों की बुरी हालत रहेगी। अब तो लोगों ने सौच लिया है कि बाढ़ आयेगी इसलिए दुबारा घर नहीं बनाना चाहिए। इसलिए, वे छप्पर डालकर ही गुजर बसर कर रहे हैं। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि जो तटबन्ध का पाट छूट गया है, उसको पूरा कराने की तरफ विशेष रूप से ध्यान देने की कृपा करें। आपकी सिंचाई योजनाएँ जो बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण हैं, उनकी ओर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

मैंने शारदा सहायक का जिक्र किया, अगर इस नहर के बनाने में भ्रष्टाचार न हुआ होता, अच्छी ईंटें पुल और बैराज तथा नीचे की दीवारें बनाने में लगी होतीं तो उस नहर की यह बुरी हालत न हुई होती। दूसरे रामगंगा परियोजना का बाँध बिजनौर के नजदीक बन रहा है, सम्भवतः यह बड़ी योजना है जिससे करीब 4 लाख हैक्टर जमीन की सिंचाई होती, 153 करोड़ रु० की योजना है जो 1983 में बन कर तैयार हो जानी चाहिए थी। लेकिन अभी पूरी नहीं हुई है। इसमें कितना भ्रष्टाचार हुआ है वह मैं बताना चाहता हूँ। जो बैराज बन रहा था उसमें बाईं भुजा जब बनने को थी तो जिन ठेकेदारों ने इंजीनियरों से मिल कर बनायी तो बायीं भुजा में 3 पतें बननी थीं, एक नीचे की पतें पतली रेत की, उसके ऊपर रोड़ी व ईटा रेत की लगभग 6 इंच मोटी होनी थी। इसके बाद मिट्टी की दीवार होनी थी 6 इंच मिट्टी और रेत बिछाया जाना था। लेकिन इस पतें को गायब कर दिया ठेकेदारों ने। और जब शिकायत की गई तो इसकी जाँच हुई और पाया गया कि यह पतें वाकई

में गायब है, नहीं बनी। ठेकेदारों के एस्टी-मेट में 40 परसेंट की कटौती कर दी गई। लेकिन जिन दोषी इंजीनियरों से मिलकर यह गलत काम ठेकेदारों ने किया उनके खिलाफ आज तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई। इतनी महत्वपूर्ण योजना में जहाँ इतना बड़ा काम हुआ हो, जिसकी पकड़ भी हो गई है, तो आप केन्द्रीय सरकार के विशेषज्ञों की कोई कमेटी बनाकर फिर से जांच कराइए और दोषी लोगों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही होनी चाहिये। अगर ऐसा नहीं करेंगे तो इसी तरह से इंजीनियर बड़ी-बड़ी स्कीमों में करोड़ों रु० के घपले करते रहेंगे। हमें थोड़ी सी समझ आनी चाहिये कि अगर इंजीनियर या अन्य अधिकारी लोग घपला नहीं करते हैं तो बड़े-बड़े शहरों में जो बड़े-बड़े मकान बन रहे हैं यह किन लोगों के हैं और लाखों रुपये उनके पास कहाँ से आत हैं? जितने भी नए-नए मकान बन रहे हैं इनमें किसानों के तो 2 परसेंट भी नहीं हैं, सब आई०ए०एस०, पी०सी०एस० इंजीनियर्स और डाक्टरों के ही मकान बन रहे हैं। अगर यह लोग भ्रष्टाचार नहीं करते हैं तो इतना पैसा कहाँ से इनके पास आता है? लाखों रुपये के प्लॉट और कोठियाँ कहाँ से बन रही हैं? इनकी जांच की जानी चाहिये। अगर आपने एक जगह सख्ती की तो भ्रष्टाचार रुक सकता है। जांच होनी चाहिये धन जमा करने के स्रोत कौन-कौन से हैं? एक बार सख्ती कर देंगे तो लूट पर नियंत्रण पा सकेंगे।

एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। विश्व बैंक से देश में कई सिंचाई योजनाएँ चल रही हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में विश्व बैंक की सहायता से राजकीय नलकूप बनाये जा रहे हैं। हमारा जिला सीतापुर भी बाद में पिछले साल उसमें शामिल किया गया है और 25 ट्यूबवैल दिये गये हैं। सीतापुर की एक, एक इंच जमीन बड़ी उपजाऊ है। जितनी जमीन आपकी बाढ़ और सीपेज की खराब हुई है

[श्री राम लाल राही]

उसको छोड़ कर, हमारे यहाँ ऊसर और बंजर नहीं हैं, शेष जमीन एक-एक इंच पानी पानी मांग रही है अगर पानी हो तो हमारा पूरा जिला खाये और पड़ोसी जिलों को भी अन्न दे सकता है। लेकिन वहाँ सिंचाई साधनों का अभाव है। आपने विश्व बैंक से राजकीय नलकूप बनाने की स्कीम शुरू की है। कृपा करके आप इसकी संख्या हमारे यहाँ बढ़ाइये।

विश्व बैंक की जो स्कीम चल रही है, उसके बारे में आप एक एरिया चुनिये जैसे सीतापुर को आपने लिया है उसमें एक तरफ से लगातार एक साइड से बनाते जाइये। लेकिन जब ट्यूबवैल का बंटवारा होता है तो कह दिया जाता कि 20 ट्यूबवैल लगा दो। कहीं नहर बन गई, कहीं लिफ्ट सिंचाई हो गई और कहीं ट्यूबवैल लग गया। अब 20 ट्यूबवैल दूर-दूर लगा दिये जाते हैं कहीं उससे 200 एकड़ सिंचाई हो रही है, कहीं 150 एकड़ हो रही है। दूसरा ट्यूबवैल 500 एकड़ पर लगा है उससे भी थोड़ा हिस्सा सिंचाई हो जाता है, लेकिन बीच का जो 100,150 एकड़ एरिया इस तरह से रह जाता है, उसको पानी फिर नहीं मिल पाता और वहाँ आप न ट्यूबवैल लगायेंगे, न लिफ्ट सिंचाई होगी और न वहाँ नहर का पानी मिलेगा। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप विस्तार से इसका सर्वे कराइये और एक ऐसी योजना बनाइये जिससे कोई हिस्सा बीच की बगैर सिंचाई की व्यवस्था के न रहे। अगर कहीं नहर बननी है, 10 साल में बननी है तो 10 साल में बने लेकिन पानी की व्यवस्था बीच में रुकावट न डाले। सरकार को देखना चाहिये कि कहाँ कौनसा साधन उपलब्ध करा सकती है, उसी के मुताबिक काम होना चाहिये।

सीतापुर में कठना और गोमती और घाघरा नदियाँ हैं। इनका पानी सिंचाई और बिजली के लिये उपयोग में नहीं लाया जा रहा है। छोटी लिफ्ट की 10, 20 एकड़ की योजनाएं बन रही हैं, लेकिन वह भी बिजली के अभाव में पूरी क्षमता से सिंचाई के लिये पानी नहीं दे पा रही है। इन नदियों में बारहों महीने पानी रहता है, मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इनकी जाँच कराई जाये और इन नदियों के पानी के इस्तेमाल की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये।

हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के एक मन्त्री हैं, हमारे ही जिले के हैं, मैं उनका नाम नहीं लेना चाहता। उन्होंने एक भाषण दे दिया कि हम गोमती नदी में स्टीमर चलवायेंगे। मेरा कहना यह है कि गांव के लिये बैलगाड़ी का रास्ता वह नहीं दे पा रहे हैं, किसान को खाद भी नहीं पहुंचा पा रहे हैं, सिंचाई के लिये पानी नहीं दे पा रहे हैं और वह उस नदी में स्टीमर चलवायेंगे। स्टीमर चलने से पानी बेकार पड़ा रहेगा जिसका किसान के हित में कोई उपयोग नहीं हो सकेगा। उनके भाषण से यह अवरोध उत्पन्न हो गया है। मैं केन्द्रीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह उनको कहें कि उन्होंने कैसे कह दिया कि इस छोटी सी नदी में स्टीमर चलवायेंगे। वह सिंचाई के लिये बड़ी स्कीम देते, योजना देते उससे पानी का उपयोग तो होता।

मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार के राज्य मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि मैं जब सीपेज में बैठा तो उन्होंने बड़ी दिलचस्पी ली और सरकार का उस तरफ ध्यान गया। अगर वह दिलचस्पी नहीं लेते तो संभवतः मुझे और ज्यादा टाइम बैठना पड़ता। उन्होंने बड़ी कृपा की। मैं उनसे फिर विनम्रता से अनुरोध करूंगा कि उस इलाके में चाहे शारदा हो या प्रदेश की दूसरी नहरें हो, उन्हें सब जगह राहत

के कार्य कराने चाहिये। उस इलाके में सस्ते गल्ले की दुकान खोलनी चाहिये, इसके उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिये ताकि वहां के लोगों को खाना मिल सके।

श्री नाथूराम मिर्जा (नागौर) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे मौका दिया, उसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

इस देश में वाटर रीसोर्सिज कितने हैं और कितने ऐवेलेबल किए जा सकते हैं, इस बारे में सिंचाई मंत्रालय द्वारा बनाए गए इर्रिगेशन कमीशन और कृषि मंत्रालय द्वारा बनाए गए राष्ट्रीय कृषि आयोग ने बहुत गहराई से अध्ययन करके उसकी ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। राष्ट्रीय कृषि आयोग और सिंचाई आयोग की हजारों सिफारिशें हैं। आज मुझे यह कहते हुए दुःख होता है कि जिस गम्भीरता के साथ उन सिफारिशों का अध्ययन करके उन पर निर्णय लिया जाना चाहिये, वह कहीं नजर नहीं आती है और इसमें बहुत सुस्ती बरती जा रही है। चूंकि यह एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व का प्रश्न है, इसलिए मैंने पहले भी इस सदन में यह निवेदन किया था कि सदन को इन दोनों आयोगों की रिपोर्ट्स पर चर्चा करने के लिए दो-दो, तीन-तीन दिनों का समय लगाना चाहिये। इन रिपोर्ट्स के बारे में न तो बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों को ज्ञान है और न बार-बार बदलने वाले मंत्रियों को ज्ञान है।

यह एक कृषि-प्रधान देश है। यहाँ पर चाहे कितना भी औद्योगीकरण हो, आजादी के समय जब हमारी जनसंख्या 32, 33 करोड़ थी, तब भी 75, 80 फीसदी लोगों का मुख्य धंधा खेती था और आज भी वही स्थिति है, जबकि हमारी जनसंख्या 72 करोड़ है। इसके अलावा औद्योगीकरण भी निर्भर करता है खेती के उत्पादन पर, इस

लिए खेती का उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहिये। जब तक दोनों आयोगों की सिफारिशों का गहराई से अध्ययन करके इस सदन के सदस्यों का दिशा-निर्देश नहीं किया जाएगा, तब तक इस सदन और सरकार की कोई कोआर्डिनेटिड एप्रोच नहीं बन सकती है। इस सैन्चुरी के एण्ड तक पूरी जनसंख्या के लिए कितनी कृषि से उत्पादित चीजों की डिमांड होगी और उनकी सप्लाई कैसे होनी चाहिए, इस पर गहराई से विचार करना चाहिए।

आज से दो-तीन साल पहले हम, बहुत आशावादी थे कि हम कृषि-उत्पादन में सेल्फ-रेलायंट ही रहे हैं। लेकिन आज खाद्यान्नों का इम्पोर्ट करने की नौबत आ गई है। आज हम तेल का आयात करते हैं। कृषि से उत्पादित बहुत सी चीजों को इम्पोर्ट करके हम विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च कर रहे हैं, हालांकि यहाँ पर उनका बहुत पोटेन्शल है। इस समय खाद्यान्नों का हमारा स्टेव-लाइज्ड प्राडक्शन 120 से 130 मिलियन टन है। 1985 तक, सिक्स्थ प्लान के आखिर तक, हमें 158 मिलियन टन तक पहुंचाना था। कैसे पहुंचेंगे? उसके लिए सिंचाई की जरूरत है, खाद के ज्यादा यूज करने की जरूरत है। 1985 तक हमें 9 मिलियन टन खाद का उपयोग करना है, जबकि आज हम सिर्फ 4 मिलियन टन कर रहे हैं।

हमने सिंचाई को बहुत सी योजनाएं बनाई हैं। इस बुकलेट में बताया गया है कि 150 मेजर योजनाओं और 785 मीडियम योजनाओं को हाथ में लिया गया है, जबकि उनमें से पूरी हुई हैं 40 मेजर योजनाएं और 500 मीडियम प्राजेक्ट्स। कितना वैकलाग है। सरकार बड़ी-बड़ी योजनाओं को हाथ में लेती है, लेकिन उन्हें पूरा नहीं कर पाती है और धन को इधर-उधर बखेर देती है।

[श्री नाथूराम मिर्धा]

मैं राजस्थान कैनल की याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मंत्री महोदय राजस्थान के हैं - वैसे वह देश के मंत्री है। आज राजस्थान कैनल की क्या दुर्दशा है? पच्चीस साल में पहला फँज अब पूरा हुआ है। मंत्री महोदय मेहरवानी करके बताएं कि सैकंड फँज कब पूरा होगा। राजस्थान के सूखे इलाकों में सिंचाई करने के बारे में कृषि आयोग ने बहुत मेहनत करके सर्वे कराया। कुछ लिफ्ट योजनाएं चुरू, बीकानेर, नागौर, जोधपुर और बाड़मेर जिलों में शुरू की जा सकती है। लिफ्ट्स के जरिये एक दो लाख हैक्टेयर में पानी पहुंचाने से कालोनाइजेशन का खर्चा बच जाएगा। सरकार इसके लिए बिजली की क्या व्यवस्था करेगी? लिफ्ट्स के बारे में सरकार की क्या योजना है? राजस्थान में भी मंत्री महोदय की पार्टी की सरकार है। वह स्वयं राजस्थान के हितों को जानते हैं। मैं और अधिक समय इस बात पर नहीं लेना चाहता, आपको सारी बैकग्राउण्ड मालूम ही है। मैं आपसे यह जरूर जानना चाहूंगा कि राजस्थान में आप लिफ्ट यूरिगेशन के सम्बन्ध में क्या करना चाहते हैं? आप उसको जल्दी से जल्दी इंप्लीमेंट करें। पांच साल से राजस्थान की जनता सूखे से पीड़ित है। बाड़ोर, जालौर जिलों में पांच साल से कमाई का कोई साधन नहीं है। चारा और धान की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है और कमाई भी नहीं है।

कांस्टीट्यूशन में पानी के वितरण की व्यवस्था है और इस पार्लियामेंट के बनाए हुए कानून भी है। अगर उनमें या कांस्टीट्यूशन में कोई अमेन्डमेंट करने की आवश्यकता हो तो उसको भी करना चाहिए क्योंकि वाटर एक राष्ट्रीय सम्पत्ति है। जब डॉ० राव

सिंचाई मंत्री थे तब उन्होंने कानून बनाया था लेकिन वह कोल्ड स्टोरेज में डाल दिया गया। आज आपकी पार्टी का इतना बड़ा बहुमत है, अनेक राज्य सरकारें भी आपकी ही पार्टी की हैं। कृषि आयोग और सिंचाई आयोग की सिफारिशें आपके समक्ष हैं और आपके पास इतनी शक्ति है आप विधान में आवश्यक संशोधन कर सकते हैं। पानी जो कि एक राष्ट्रीय सम्पत्ति है उसका उपयुक्त बटवारा होना चाहिए। यदि आप ऐसा नहीं करते हैं तो इस देश का एक-तिहाई भाग हमेशा सूखाग्रस्त बना रहेगा और वहाँ पर अकाल पड़ता रहेगा। इसके विपरीत जहाँ पर पानी ज्यादा है वहाँ पर बाढ़ें भी आती रहेंगी और क्षति पहुंचती रहेगी। ऐसी दशा में इस देश का कृषि उत्पादन भी नहीं बढ़ेगा और पशुपालन की स्थिति भी ठीक नहीं रहेगी। आप खेती के जरिए से जो गरीबी मिटाना चाहते हैं और लोगों को रोजगार देना चाहते हैं इसमें आप कामयाब नहीं हो पायेंगे।

वाटर रिसोर्सेज के सम्बन्ध में इस सदन में अक्सर चर्चा होती रहती है। दस्तूर प्लान के बारे में आपने कह दिया कि वह फीजिवल नहीं है डॉ० के० एल० राव की कावेरी-गंगा लिंक योजना भी आपके अनुसार फीजिवल नहीं है तो आपको साफ न कहना चाहिए। इन कान्ट्रोवर्सीज को मिटाने के लिए आपको बोल्ड निर्णय लेने चाहिए और जो 50 हजार करोड़ की आपकी वाटर-रिसोर्सेज की योजना है, उसको लागू करने की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए।

आज आप जो भी योजनाएं बनाते हैं उनको बनाने के लिए ठेकेदारी सिस्टम है। लेकिन जिस तरह से काम चलता है और पेमेंट के समय पर नीचे की लेविल पर जिस तरह से रिसोर्सेज का बटवारा होता है वह जहाँ पहले 5, 7 या 10 परसेन्ट होता था

अब 35 परसेन्ट तक चला गया है। (व्यवधान) हो सकता है इससे भी ऊपर होता हो। लेकिन अगर इस देश की योजनाओं का 35 परसेन्ट धन लोग आपस में बटवारा करके ही खा जायेंगे तो इस देश का क्या बनेगा? (व्यवधान) हमारे देश में रिसोज सीमित है इसलिए उनका पूरा यूटिलाइजेशन करके हमें अपने लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करना चाहिए। जो भी योजनायें बनाई जायें उनके लक्ष्यों की पूर्ति के लिए पूरी कोशिश होनी चाहिए। यदि आप बड़ी-बड़ी योजनायें फैलाकर बना दें और उनके लिए समुचित साधन न हों तो वह भी उचित नहीं होगा।

मैं नर्मदा के सम्बन्ध में भी मन्त्री जी को याद दिलाना चाहूंगा। खोसला कमीशन ने जो रिपोर्ट दी उसमें डैम की हाइट ज्यादा बताई गई थी। ट्रिब्यूनल के जरिये जो फैसला किया गया उसमें 450 हाइट रखी गई लेकिन इस हाइट के मामले को ही तय करने में 15 साल का समय चला गया। जिस समय खोसला कमीशन की रिपोर्ट आई थी उस समय यह योजना 1200 करोड़ की थी। आज 12 हजार करोड़ रुपए में भी यह पूरी नहीं होगी। हम इन छोटी-छोटी बातों पर झगड़ते हुए कोई निर्णय नहीं ले पाते हैं आज नर्मदा कैनल के पानी के बारे में भी विवाद खड़ा हुआ है। ट्रिब्यूनल ने फैसला दिया है। राजस्थान के बहुत बड़े हिस्से जाल्लौर और आड़मेर को सींचने की क्षमता नर्मदा कैनल में हैं। नौगांव डैम में पानी की कमी नहीं रहेगी और बरसात के दिनों में तो रहेगी ही नहीं। यदि यह प्रोजेक्ट जल्दी से जल्दी पूरा हो जाए तो बाड़मेर और जाल्लौर की समस्या हल हो सकती है

मेरे ख्याल से सबसे ज्यादा पानी नर्मदा लेकर चलती है। इस नर्मदा के पानी का अगर हम उपयोग इन सूखे क्षेत्रों में कर सकें, तो बहुत बड़ी समस्या का समाधान हो

सकता है। राजस्थान में भाग्य से आप मन्त्री रहे हैं। राजस्थान के 20-22 मसले ऐसे हैं, जो पैडिंग हैं। पंजाब और हरियाणा तथा माही नदी, गुजरात के साथ अन्तर-राष्ट्रीय विवाद जो उलझे पड़े हुए हैं, इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उन विवादों का निपटारा जल्दी करा सकें तो बहुत अच्छा है। देश के बिगड़ते हुए वातावरण को देखकर बहुत ही दुःख होता है। पंजाब और देश के दूसरे इलाकों की हालत अच्छी नहीं है। किसानों में प्रेम और सामन्जसस्य होकर पानी का सही बटवारा हो और उसका सही उपयोग हो। किसान पानी मांगता चला जा रहा है। पानी की वजह भी जमीन बर्बाद होती चली जा रही है, फिर भी हम लेंगे, हम लेंगे और दूसरे को पानी नहीं लेने देंगे, इस वजह से देश की हालत बिगड़ती चली जा रही है।

मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन समस्याओं को कौन सुलझायेगा? मेरी दृष्टि में केवल केन्द्रीय सरकार ही इन समस्याओं का समाधान कर सकती है। उनको ब्राड-बीजन लेकर पानी को सही उपयोग करना चाहिए और अपने लक्ष्यों की पूर्ति करनी चाहिए। जब सिंचाई की व्यवस्था नहीं होगी तो नौ लाख टन खाद कैसे यूज होगा। सिंचाई की व्यवस्था एग्रीकल्चर का सबसे बड़ा इनपुट है। इनपुट का सही तौर से विभाजन करके देश में बांटना चाहिए। गीले इलाकों में जहाँ सरप्लस पानी है, उसको सूखे इलाकों में पहुंचाना चाहिए। बाके से जहाँ जमीन बर्बाद हो रही है या पानी के रिसाव से जहाँ धरती बर्बाद हो रही है, जमीनों में कटाव आ गए हैं, 70 लाख हैक्टेयर जमीन आज देश को बेकार है, उसको रिहैबिलिटेड करने के लिए आपने जो 50 करोड़ रुपए का अन्दाजा लगाया है, वह मेरी दृष्टि में 60-70 हजार करोड़ रुपये का है। बिगड़ी हुई एल्कलाइन और एसिडिक लैंड को सुधारने के लिए बहुत

[श्री नाथूराम मिर्धा]

लड़े-बड़े कार्यक्रम है, जिनकी तस्वीर दोनों आयोगों ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में दी है। उनपर चर्चा की मैं पुरजोर शब्दों में मांग करता हूँ।

समय बहुत कम है, इसलिए मैं आपका ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता हूँ। मैंने कुछ मुद्दे आपके सामने पेश किए हैं, मेहरबानी करके आप उन मुद्दे का जवाब दीजिए। यदि जवाब नहीं दे सकते हैं तो उन पर गहराई से विचार करके उन पर निर्णय लीजिए। यही मेरा आपसे निवेदन है।

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Before the hon. Minister replies to the debate, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee wants to make a point. The hon. Member may now make her point.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the conclusion of the debate day before yesterday, a very important news item appeared in West Bengal newspaper "Ananda Bazar" reporting from Dacca. It said that some international Monetary agency's representative has said in Dacca that there is a river flowing deep down the Ganges which is capable of supplying 90,000, cuseces of water to the Ganges. In my opinion this news item is a very sinister move in the background of our talks with the Bangladesh representatives on the sharing of Farakka River water. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of this news item and what is their reaction to it? I also want to know whether there is any move on the Government side to counter this news item.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members may kindly know that we have already taken an hour more on the discussion of Demands for Grants of this Ministry and therefore time may not permit for any more speeches from the side of the hon. Members. Now, I would request the hon. Minister of Irrigation kindly to reply to the debate.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udipi): I represent Karnataka and I would like to

present its case. Kindly give me only two minutes.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : There are others also.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES : But day before yesterday, the Deputy Speaker agreed that he would give me time. My name is also there.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : All right. You speak for two minutes only.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : I would take only one minute, Sir.

*SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udipi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Irrigation presented by our hon. Minister Shri Ram N. was Mirdha.

Particularly, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House one very important matter. That is the Cauvery river water dispute. With regard to Cauvery water dispute there was an agreement in the year 1924. At that time there was Madras composite province and an agreement was arrived at between Madras province and State of Mysore. Then, Travancore Cochin State, Pondicherry State and Coorg were excluded from purview of this agreement, the duration of that agreement was over in 1974. Now, a new agreement has to be arrived at.

The cauvery basin area in Karnataka is about 42%. The quantum of water that flows in Karnataka area is 53%, But only 26% of Cauvery water is being utilised for cultivating 11% of the cultivable area in Karnataka.

At present the quantum of water that is needed for Karnataka is 424 T. M. C. There should be no hinderance or hurdle in reaching an agreement that would ensure 424 T. M. C. of water for Karnataka. The hon. Minister of Irrigation

*The original speech was delivered in Kannada.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha should bring out all his latent talents in getting a mutually beneficial and acceptable Cauvery water agreement for all the four States—Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Kerala, without at the same time doing any injustice to Karnataka State.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to make one thing clear. Sir, a reference was made that all engineers are corrupt and most of them are constructing house in Delhi with illgotten booty. That is not correct, Sir. Most of the engineers also come from the landlord class. They are selling their lands and are having houses here. Wholesale condemnation is very very improper.

Secondly, Sir, Srisailam is going to generate a lot of electricity and it will supply electricity to other States also from Andhra Pradesh. Because our State is not in a position to spend much more money on this project, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he is going to take over this project, because we have sunk all our money in this project and we have created a huge reservoir which was called by Pandit Nehru as modern temple of India.

Lastly, Sir, the Rajasthan Canal is a national project. The sand is advancing and if it is to be stopped, the only way is to complete the Rajasthan Canal. From the day I entered this House in 1971, I have been pleading the case of the Rajasthan Canal. Though I do not come from that State, yet I have been pleading for it because it is a national project, and if that is not completed, the sand will advance and most of the fertile land will be engulfed by the sand. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to let us know whether the Government will take appropriate steps to complete this project?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDAR (Durgapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. Minister will answer soon. Sir, the Hon. Minister knows that Calcutta Port is not for West Bengal alone. It is not for the North Eastern region alone. Calcutta port is our national port. But because the Calcutta port is not getting

40,000 cusecs of water in lean months, day by day its condition is deteriorating and because of drought for the last two or three years, the condition of the Calcutta port has become very precarious. Last time the Hon. Minister led the Indian delegation to the talks regarding sharing of Ganges water with Bangladesh. He led the delegation of our country. I would request him to assure this House and the country that henceforth, Calcutta port will get 40,000 cusecs of water in lean months. Calcutta Port will naturally serve the national interests because import and export trades are done through it. So, I would request him to answer this point, and assure our nation that 40,000 cusecs on water will be given henceforth to Calcutta Port in lean months.

श्री हरीश रावत (धल्मोड़ा) : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि नेपाल के साथ जल ससाधनों के बटवारे के सम्बन्ध में जो बातचीत चल रही है वह किस स्थिति में है? पचेम्बर बांध के विषय में करनाली के विषय में क्या प्रगति हो रही है?

दूसरे इस समय हमारे यहाँ जितने रिजरवायर हैं, उनकी भी एक सिल्टेशन की मेजर प्राब्लम है। आप जो ड्राट प्रोन एरियाज आइडेन्टिफाई करते हैं, वह उन मैदानी क्षेत्रों में किया जाता है जहाँ से बाढ़ आती है। उन एरियाज का ही आइडेन्टिफिकेशन होता है। जहाँ से बाढ़ की शुरुआत होती है, वहाँ सायल कंजरवेशन काम बहुत कम होता है। क्या मंत्री जी भारत सरकार की ओर से राज्य सरकारों को सलाह देंगे कि जिन एरियाज से नदियाँ निकलती हैं, चाहे वे असम के इलाके हों, चाहे नेपाल के हों, नेपाल को भी मदद देनी चाहिए, चाहे हिमाचल और उत्तरप्रदेश के इलाके हों, उन सभी पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में सिल्टेशन की प्राब्लम को चैक करने के लिए विशेष उपाय करें। असम इस काम को एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री करती है और एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री के पास इतने रिसोर्सिज नहीं हैं

[श्री हरीश रावत]

कि वह मदद दे सके। इरीगेशन डिपार्टमेंट के पास काफी पैसा होता है, इसलिए अगर इरीगेशन डिपार्टमेंट इस कार्य को अपने हाथों में ले तो यह समस्या बहुत कुछ हल हो सकती है।

एक बहुत दिनों से यह मांग की जा रही है कि एक आल इण्डिया इजीनिरिंग सर्विस होनी चाहिए। इस सिलसिले में नागरवाला कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है। उस पर क्या मंत्रालय विचार कर रहा और उसमें जो कई प्रकार के सुझाव दिये गये हैं उनके विषय में सिंचाई मंत्रालय ने राज्य सरकारों से बातचीत करके उन्हें स्वीकार कराने के विषय में कहाँ तक प्रगति की है ?

श्री रणवीर सिंह (केसरगंज) : सभापति महोदय, अभी एक माननीय सदस्य ने जिस तरह की बात बतायी, उत्तर प्रदेश के बाराबंकी जिले में जितनी नहरें उनमें सीपेज की इतनी बड़ी समस्या है कि जो क्षेत्र इरीगेटिड हो रहे हैं उससे कहीं अधिक भूमि सीपेज के कारण बर्बाद हो रही है। यह और भी कई जिलों की समस्या है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या सरकार इन नहरों के सम्बन्ध में कोई राष्ट्रीय नीति बनायेगी और इस तरह की सीपेज को रोकने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को निर्देश देगी ?

सभापति महोदय, जहाँ नहरें निर्माणाधीन हैं और जिनके बनने में कई वर्ष लग रहे हैं जैसे कि वहराइच जिले में बनने वाली नहरें जिनके कारण वहाँ नलकूप नहीं दिए जा रहे हैं और यह कहा जा रहा है कि वहाँ चूँकि नहरें बनने वाली हैं इसलिए उस क्षेत्र के नलकूप नहीं लिए जायेंगे। मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आप उन क्षेत्रों के लिए उदारता बरतें और उन क्षेत्रों को

नलकूप दिए जाएं ताकि जब तक नहरें नहीं बनती तब तक वहाँ का बड़ा भू-भाग जो कि उपजाऊ है पानी की कमी के कारण बर्बाद न हो। क्या आप कोई ऐसा निर्देश देंगे ? कृपया आप इस पर शीघ्र ध्यान दें ताकि इस पर शीघ्र कार्य हो सके।

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (गोरखपुर) : माननीय सभापति जी, थोड़ी सी बात मुझे कहनी है कि बाढ़ के कारण हमारे पूर्वी उत्तरप्रदेश में बहुत क्षति हुई है। वैसे तो पूरे राष्ट्र में क्षति होती है लेकिन हमारे पूर्वी उत्तरप्रदेश के कुछ हिस्सों में बाढ़ से इतनी तबाही हो जाती है कि गाँव के गाँव बर्बाद हो जाते हैं, उनमें कोई घर नहीं बचते हैं और सरकार की ओर जो अनुदान मिलना चाहिए वह अनुदान भी नहीं मिल पाता है। मैं अपनी कांस्टीच्युन्सी के बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ। हमारे गोरखपुर जिले में चार नदियाँ हैं। इन चारों नदियों की बाढ़ से पूरा का पूरा गोरखपुर तबाह हो जाता है। राप्ती मुख्य नदी है और यह हमारे जिले को दो भागों में बाँटती है। इस नदी से हर साल भीषण तबाही होती है। नदी के किनारे पर तटबंद बनाने की योजना सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत की गई है। एक किनारे पर तटबंद बन भी गया है। दूसरे किनारे पर भी काफी हिस्सा बन चुका है लेकिन थोड़ा हिस्सा अभी नहीं बन पाया है। इसके बारे में मैंने मंत्री जी को लिखा था। यह (बढ़या कोठा) बढ़या रिगौली तटबंध कहलाता है। इसके न बनने से सवा सौ गाँव हर साल दुरी तरह से तबाह हो जाते हैं। इस तटबन्ध के बनने से यह तबाही बचाई जा सकती है। पिछले पाँच वर्षों से यह काम चल रहा है, लेकिन कुछ प्रकार के कारणों से यह बाँध नहीं बन पा रहा है। यदि मंत्री जी पता लगायेंगे तो उन कारणों का उनको पता चल जायेगा कहा जा रहा कि पैसा नहीं है। सरकार की ओर से जो पैसा दिया जाता है उसके बारे में यह भी पता चला है कि उसका दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। इस समय थोड़ा काम शुरू

किया गया है। मेरा मन्त्री जी से अनुरोध है कि (बढ़या कोठा) (बढ़या-रिगौली-तटबंध को पूरा कराएँ और इस क्षेत्र को तबाही से बचाएँ।

दूसरा राप्ती नदी पर एक भालू बाँध की नेपाल सरकार से बात चल रही थी। मुझे मालूम नहीं है कि इस दिशा में क्या प्रगति हुई है। अगर यह योजना तैयार हो जाती है तो इससे सारे पूर्वी उत्तरप्रदेश और पश्चिमी बिहार की तबाही रुक जायेगी। यह गम्भीरता का विषय है। वैसे भी अगर बाढ़ का पानी को नियंत्रित कर लिया जाये तो इससे सिंचाई के साधनों का भी विकास होगा। इससे कृषि उत्पादन बढ़ेगा, विद्युत उत्पादन बढ़ेगा। इससे औद्योगिक विकास होगा जिससे देश की बेरोजगारी दूर होगी।

इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की तबाही बचाने के लिए भालू बांध परियोजना और (बढ़या कोठा) बढ़या रिगौली तटबंध योजना शीघ्र पूर्ण की जाए। भालू बाँध योजना के लिए नेपाल सरकार से शीघ्र बात कर निर्णय लिया जाए।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIDHA) : I am really grateful to the hon. members who participated in this debate and stressed the importance of irrigation in the context of our agricultural situation as well as for flood protection, drinking water and other connected matters. There is no denying the fact that agriculture is and will continue to occupy a very important place in our planning processes, because whether it is for production of foodgrains, raw-materials for industries or export promotion, from whatever angle we might look at it, agriculture will remain for a long time a very crucial factor in our economic thinking. It is with that point in view that irrigation, which is a very important input for agricultural production, has been given a place of pride in our planning

and we are doing all that we can to see that the water resources of our country, which are in abundance are harnessed properly for the benefit of our people.

We had an unfortunate spectacle of drought in certain areas in certain years and floods in certain areas in certain years. So, this drought-floods syndrome is really our most serious concern and all our plans are formulated from the point of view of breaking this strangle hold of floods and drought which confront our country from time to time. Lot of figures have been given by hon. Members from our publications and from their own experience regarding development of irrigation and its utilisation. But it may be worthwhile recaptulating certain facts and stressing them and putting them in proper perspective.

When our country became independent, we had around 20 million hectares of land under irrigation and if you go back in history, irrigation has a long history in our country. We find mention of tanks and wells in our history and mythology, and right now in many parts of our country we have irrigation structures almost a thousand years old working in a very satisfactory way which shows that irrigation was well known in olden times and we have inherited a very great tradition so far as irrigation projects and utilisation of their benefits is concerned. That is exactly the reason why in the New 20-Point Programme irrigation occupies the first position. Even in the old 20-Point Programme of 1975 it had an important position in that we laid emphasis, and that has helped in stepping up our agricultural production, particularly through irrigation.

Well, since 1951 when we started our planning process upto 1974 which means the end of the Fourth Plan, we have been increasing irrigation at the rate of one million hectares every year. Then from 1974-75 a real thrust has been given to the development of irrigation. And this is exactly where the first 20-Point Programme comes into the picture because that programme clearly sets a target of five million hectares from medium and major works.

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Under ground water resources were also to be stepped up. So from 1975 onwards we have been creating a potential of two million hectares per year since then. But even that does not meet our needs. It may be worth recapitulating that in our country from the sources known at present, minor, medium and major irrigation works, there is a potential of 113 million hectares and we have realised more than 50 per cent of it as of now, and we are determined to have this fully raised by the end of the century or a little beyond. Even if we can create potential over and above these 113 million hectares, there will still be vast areas which will be deprived of irrigation. So then, what do we do? Firstly, what we did is to increase the provision in the Sixth Plan substantially and for that we have allocated 12758 crores of rupees which is more than what we have spent since planning began in our country. This shows the measure of seriousness that the Government gave to irrigation. Before the start of the Sixth Plan we have spent Rs.12,558 crores but in the Sixth Plan we have provided Rs. 12,758 crores. Does it not show the importance we give? But as I said, even with this amount we may not have enough to increase irrigation, from the sources that are known at present. So, the question arises of inter-basin transfer of water. We are taking water through inter-river basin transfers, north, south and whatever direction, and that is why the concept of Gangea-Cauveri and all others comes up. For this purpose, a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development has been made. After survey, this Plan has been made and the purpose of this Plan is how we can increase our irrigation capacity so that we can go beyond the present known sources of 113 million hectares.

It may be worth recalling that our total surplus water is about 1440 million acre-feet, which is about the same as that of the United States of America. But the water impounded in dams in USA is five times what we have done. It shows that there is a tremendous potential in a very practical and concrete sense. If we have the determination and the resources,

we can create lot of other storages so that this water can be taken to the areas which are at present deprived of water. This national perspective has two aspects. One is the Himalayan river system. Another is the peninsular river development. So, we have given priority to the survey of the peninsular river system first, because the Himalayan river system involved foreign countries, negotiations with them and storage in their countries. For this purpose, we have created a National Water Development Agency. It is a registered society and it has started functioning from last years.

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SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM (Tiruchendur) : Is it a statutory body or an advisory body?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA. It is a registered society, which implements survey programmes. It has been given the responsibility of surveying in detail this national perspective. They have enough machinery. They will need Rs. 107 crores. The time-frame is from 7 to 10 years. We have started working in a very satisfactory manner, which will pick up momentum as will go along. These were the recommendations of the Irrigation Commission and the National Commission on Agriculture, of which Shri R. N. Mirdha was the distinguished Chairman. These two Commissions and the National Baha Aayog have given lot of ideas and suggestions. They have gone deep into the ideas of irrigation and water resource development. I can assure him and the House through you that we are fully committed to examine these proposals and implement them. Actually, the process of implementation has already started with one of the major recommendations i.e. transfer of water from one river basin to another. In the same context, how do we transfer water from one basin to another without the cooperation of the States? For that purpose, the suggestion and the recommendation of the National Commission on Agriculture was amendment to the Constitution, which was just now suggested by hon. Members and Shri Mirdha also. This idea was seri-

ously explored. The Prime Minister herself took it up personally with the various State Governments. But the States were reluctant. Therefore, instead of postponing the whole thing and just insisting on constitutional amendment to declare water as a national resource, it was thought that an executive action be taken. It was with this end in view that the National Water Resources Council was created with the Prime Minister as the Chairman and the Union Minister for Irrigation as the Vice-Chairman. All the Chief Ministers are members. 8 Central Ministers holding important portfolios, which are relevant to this, are the members of this Council. The Council has been announced last month. We did not want to amend the Constitution as we wanted to carry the States with us. It is very easy for us to shy as to why inter-State water disputes are not settled, why Narmada Tribunal takes 10 years to decide. This itself shows how difficult the Inter-State settlement is. Therefore, we thought of this expedient in which the Prime Minister and all the Chief Ministers are there. We will submit this national perspective to our investigating agency. We have different river basins to survey, take these projects to the Council and see that the things start moving so that we can try to reach the maximum potential of which we are capable.

One thing that most Members have said is that there is lag in utilisation of water with irrigated capacity and we do not use it. That is true in a sense and the recent report of the Public Accounts Committee has deeply gone into this. I would like to say that this necessity to utilise the capacity created has always been before the Government. We have never tried to gloss over the fact. This year's Annual Report has a graph which mentions it, our Performance Budget mentions it, last year's Report mentions it, Planning documents also mention it. These facts were known and we have always been attempting to see that utilisation is almost immediate and it should be taken note of and implemented. In 1972, a serious attempt was again made by appointing a committee Under the Chairmanship of Shri Vasant Dada Patil

who was the Irrigation Minister Maharashtra at that time, to go into all the causes why there is delay in utilisation. It went into it in a serious way. This was discussed at the Irrigation Ministers' Conference. Planning Commission has also been seized of the matter for a long time and as a result of this, one practical suggestion came in 1974-75 that we should have Command Area Development Programmes with the specific aim of creation of infrastructure, around the canal system in the field, provision of inputs to the agriculturists, training in the use of water, and *Wara Bandi*. What appears very simple to Mrs. Brar and to you also, Sir, it has been very very difficult to convince the people living in the Command Area that *Wara Bandi* should be adopted because this is a scientific system, because it is equitable, because the man at the tail also gets the water in turn, use water for irrigation at night also but even these seemingly simple matters create tremendous complications. Yesterday, it was mentioned why there is lag in the creation of field channels even Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee and others raised it. That itself is creating problems because levelling need to be done, kisans do not want to do levelling and there are other problems also. So, the Command Area Development Programme has been devised to take care of these impediments that we have observed which come in the way of proper utilisation of the water resources that we have created. A little historical thing again would help. I would say, till the Fourth Plan potential creation was really very little because the process of planning had just started. The surveys were not as though as they should be, as they went along the specification change, the designs of structure change and the soil classification was not properly done, geological survey was not properly done for foundation of dams. So, I would like to say that aim of the First Plan with medium and major works, was to create 3.4 million hectares, the achievement was 2.5 million hectares. The Second Plan aim was 4.2 million hectares, achievement was 2.1 million hectares, that is, just 50 per cent. In the Third Plan, the target was

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5.2 million hectares, achievement was 2.3 million hectares, that is, just 40 per cent.

I will now come to Fifth Plan which started in 1974. The target for the Fifth Plan was 5.3 million hectares achievement was 5.1 million hectares which is quite high as compared to what we have been doing so far. It is only after this Plan and after the promulgation of the 20-Point Programme at that time that very definite target was fixed, a real thrust was given to development of irrigation.

A lot of things have been said about inter-State river disputes, which are really important. It is true that a lot of disputes are still pending settlement. But you will also see that a large number of disputes, very difficult ones, have been settled by mutual negotiation. I have a list of those disputes which have been settled by mutual negotiation. But there are still two or three which are not settled. A very serious attempt is being made to do this. One of the first things that I did when I joined this Ministry was to see that the inter-State river disputes, which are holding water development, are resolved at the earliest.

Regarding the Cauveri river dispute, about which Members from Tamil Nadu as well as Karnataka have spoken, I immediately got in contact with the Chief Ministers concerned *viz.* those of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. They had not met since 1980. I requested them to see whether they can settle it, because a very serious deadlock is there and we have received letters, saying that there is no use talking among themselves. The whole thing was in a stalemate. Now a nice atmosphere has been created, in a way the stalemate has been broken, because they have agreed to talk among themselves.

It is very easy to invoke the provisions of law and it is very easy to refer this matter to a river tribunal, or take a legalistic view. But our experience with the tribunals has not been happy. In the case of Narmada, it took ten years to settle it. It is our belief that if these disputes are

settled by negotiation, it takes less time. The difficulty which Tamil Nadu is experiencing due to drought all the more highlights the need for a mutual approach. I do hope that the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and other States would get together and try to find a solution to this problem.

Similarly, there was a problem between Gujarat and Rajasthan regarding the Narmada waters. There was a proposal and an agreement to take a part of that water to the dry areas of Rajasthan in Barmer and Jessore areas. That was also being stalled and there was no progress there. So, I requested the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Rajasthan to come together. They came and they said they will first examine it at the technical level and then try to come to some arrangement. I can assure the House that we will make all attempts to see that the inter State water disputes are settled at the earliest opportunity so that the development of irrigation is not retarded.

Before I take up the various points that have been raised by hon. Members, I would like to mention two things. One is the lag in utilisation and another is the delay in the commissioning of the work. Why do they take so long? A very simple reason is that the States started too many works. It is very easy to say, as the PAC has done, or the Planning Commission has done, or we are doing all the time, to the States "do not start new works". We have tendered that advice and the States have also agreed. For example, in the Plan allocation for particular years, almost 90 to 95 per cent of the State budget is allocated to on going schemes. You can not do more than that. There is very little left for starting new works. But there is such a vast backlog of a number of projects and the whole thing becomes difficult. Right now, you will see from the debate, how many suggestions have come like "why don't you start this embankment" or "why not sanction that project". We are in the midst of a dilemma, whether to concentrate on developing and finishing the works that are on hand, which are also quite large, or agreeing to the suggestions of the State Governments, which after all reflect the views of the

Members here, as well as in the State Legislatures, that irrigation facilities should be extended to areas which up till now have been deprived of this facility.

There can be two aspects for forming of irrigation policy. One basis could be of the use of water per unit of production. One could say that when we are talking of food shortage, one solution or way of overcoming it is to concentrate on areas which have water, which can do *Varabandi* and all the rest of the thing and get all our surplus from that area. But, if we do that, then vast areas, which are dry, arid, not used to irrigation, not seen a drop of water for centuries together, what happens to those areas? We have a responsibility for those backward areas and if the regional imbalances are to be removed, their needs have to be taken note of. So, a good policy for the development of water resources and irrigation would be an amalgam of the two approaches and to see that on the one hand we make the maximum use of water resources for maximum production and on the other hand the needs of the backward areas and the need for removing the regional imbalances are also taken note of. And that is exactly what we are doing.

As regards escalation in cost, that again is because of too many works extends to too many years. Then there is another thing which we have been discussing with the Planning Commission and that is that there is no provision for escalation due the normal inflation in our estimates. When we prepare our plans, we put the figure as on the day, it was sanctioned knowing fully well that even according to the plan that is sanctioned at that time, that will take 7 years or 8 years or whatever it is to finish it, but the cost estimation is as on that particular day when it is sanctioned. We are in touch with the Planning Commission, the Public Accounts Committee's Reports also mentioned this, we wish they had suggested some solutions to this also—but the Planning Commission and others have stressed another aspect that this will give a fillip to inflationary tendencies and things of that nature. So, even if we take this small factor into account, how much

inflationary aspect is the normal feature of our economy, if that has been built in, so many cost over-runs could have been minimised.

Another reason which I may mention in passing—there are a large number of other reasons also—is that the project are not properly investigated. When they come to the Central Water Commission—The Central Water Commission is blamed for not clearing them in time stating that they take years to do that, but they say that it is because project surveys are very sketchy, the whole structure, their foundation, the hydrology, that data that should be necessary for the formulation of these projects are not there, so they have to refer them back, consult them and all that. And before the Fourth Plan, as I said, a lot of such works were executed and their scope was widened, their structures were re-modelled in the light of the latest surveys and that is why also there are over-runs in time as well as in cost. But, Sir, we greatly value the suggestions and the study made by the Public Accounts Committee. It consists of very seasoned and eminent people under the dynamic leadership of its Chairman, who does a thorough job, but at the same time, has a flair for putting up things. We are grateful that they highlighted some of these things which are known to us and which we are, in any case, pursuing, and we believe this will give our efforts an added momentum and added clout to see that whatever has been mentioned there and what we, however, in any case at our own level are pursuing, we will be able to do it in a better way. From that point of view, we welcome all that the Committee has said and the comments of the hon. Members based on the Committee's Report. It is a sledge hammer that has fallen on us, Mrs. Mukherjee said. (*Interruptions*). We do not take it as a sledge hammer that has come. As I said, these facts are pretty well-known and we welcome the recommendations and the pointed attention that the Public Accounts Committee has given because we can do much more in future. There is no discomfiture of any nature, we do not have an adversary relationship

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with the PAC or any Parliamentary body; on the other hand, they are part of us and we mean to respect all that they have said and all the hon. Members have said.

A lot of allegations have been made about the difficulties caused due to floods. Well, floods are a real problem and the Rashtriya Barh Ayog calculated that about 40 million hectares are prone to this and by certain calculations—about 80 per cent of them—they said that 32 million hectares can be protected or are protectable and that is the basis on which we are proceeding. Our achievements have till now been quite substantial in this respect. Here again as in the case of irrigation we spent Rs. 976 crores till the end of the Fifth Plan. But in the Sixth Plan itself we have allocated Rs. 1045 crores. This again shows how much importance we give to this sector.

There are various schemes for assisting the State Governments. They have been helped in various ways. We have created Brahmaputra Board particularly keeping in view the flood problem in Assam. We are trying to have an integrated policy so far as water development is concerned. Take the need of hydel generation, irrigation and flood control. These three aspects go into any meaningful policy regarding water resource utilisation because there are sometimes contradictions in this. The needs of hydel generation which are also very necessary sometimes conflict with the need of irrigation. If there is more hydel generation at a particular time, more water flows down which may not be necessary for irrigation at that time. The reservoir gets depleted and it is not able to irrigate when needed. All these things are kept in view. Our policy is to have a very balanced approach in this and to see how these things can be utilised properly.

The problem of drought areas which I will mention along with the flooded areas is really quite serious. It has been calculated that about 1/3rd of the country is drought prone or scarcity effected.

The Central Water Commission has carried on a survey of 99 districts in the whole country and very elaborate plans after detailed survey have been prepared which was mentioned and have been shown by Shri D. P. Yadav the other day in the debate. We have sent them on to the various bodies, collectors and to the State Governments to see what sort of follow-up action they can take in that respect because this problem of drought prone areas is also very serious. Also Members from Rajasthan and Kutch and others know that this water is a really serious problem and we have been trying to see that these backward areas, drought prone areas, are properly supplied with water. Here also recommendation of the Irrigation Commission was that in these dry and backward areas the Cost benefit ratio should be reduced. Normally it is 1 : 1.5 which now we have reduced to 1 : 1. Even if the cost benefit ratio is 1 : 1, these projects are sanctioned. Here again the recommendation of the Commission was accepted. In many vital matters whatever Commission have recommended, we have acted on that and we are trying to see that all these things are properly done.

Another problem which the States face is that because of lack of availability of funds, the maintenance is not proper. We are thinking of taking it up with the Finance Commission. The Eighth Finance Commission is going on now. They will see that they provide enough resources to the States for floods protection work as well as irrigation work. We want that this aspect should be taken note of and we cannot always call upon the States to contribute from their normal resources for maintenance of this important work.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
We wish you well.

श्री कालीचरण शर्मा (भिन्ड) : सभापति महोदय, मध्य प्रदेश में गांधी सागर बांध का पूरा उपयोग मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान को नहीं हो रहा है। नहरें सूखी पड़ी रहती हैं। मंत्री महोदय से मेरा निवेदन है कि वे कुछ विशेष व्यवस्था करें। उनको सारी जानकारी

है। राजस्थान और मध्य प्रदेश की नहरें सूखी पड़ी रहती हैं। इसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : About our water disputes with Bengla Desh and our relations with Nepal, naturally there is a lot of interest in the members, how things are going on. As you know, many of our rivers originate from Nepal and we believe that a meaningful and constructive cooperation between Nepal and India is in the mutual interest of both the countries. They profit by it and we profit by it, which fact has off and on been recognised by the two Governments also. There are various other things. But mainly Karanali, Pancheswar and Rapti are the important rivers about which negotiations are going on. When the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister of Nepal visited Delhi in February, 1983 there was an agreement that the process of consultation should be stepped up and the date for meeting at the Secretaries' level was also discussed. A very high-power delegation is going from here. They are going to Kathmanndu on 19th April. A team of experts will also be there and we would see that these things are discussed in a thorough manner and some solutions found so that the construction of dams which we think necessary in the upper reaches of the rivers is taken up at an early date and there by proper utilisation could take place. We do hope that the consultation will bear fruit very soon.

As regards the problem with Bangladesh and particularly the point which was just now raised by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee about the news item regarding the vast reservoir of water in our plains, well, have seen the press-report. However, as the house knows, we are constantly having a dialogue and consultation with the Government of Bangladesh. When they visited our country, there was also some move forward. We have proposed the question of augmenting the flows at Farakka which is the cause of concern to the whole country because saving the Calcutta Port, as rightly said, is the national responsibility in many ways and our national economy can be

benefited by proper functioning of the Port. We need 40 thousand Cusecs which under the best of circumstances, we are not able to provide right through the year as if now. So, it is necessary that the flow in Farakka is augmented. We have proposed a scheme for the consideration of the Bangladesh Government which is in their interest also because if we do not let out water, they will also suffer. It is suggested in the mutual interest of both the countries that surplus water from Brahmaputra should be brought by the link canal and put in the Ganges at Farakka so that they will also gain and we also gain. On the other hand, the Government of Bangladesh.....

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : Before the water of Brahmaputra is linked with the Ganges through a canal, 40 thousand Cusecs of water is to be flowed through Bhagrrathi to save the Calcutta Port. We do not know whether the Brahmaputra will be linked through a canal with the Ganges in 2,025 A. D. At that time, the Calcutta Port will become dry like *Tamaralipta*, who was once a famous poet of Bengal you kuow. To save the Calcutta Port, you have to do this in the national interest. We demand that you should do it as early as possible.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : This point has been discussed already.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We know the deep concern of the hon. Members and the concern of the Government of West Bengal. We are constantly in touch with the Government of West Bengal. As a matter of fact, we take their representative in our delogations when we discuss this issue. The interest of Calcutta Port is paramount in our mind and we try that it gets all the water that is necessary for keeping the Port going in a viable manner.

Regarding the Press report, our stand remains the same. We are committed to our proposal that the surplus water from the Brahmaputra should be brought to the Ganges through a link canal. we press that this should be taken up seriously.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM : The Government has constituted two committees—one by the Planning Commission and another to the technical committee appointed by the Prime Minister. Both the Committees have submitted their reports. I would like to know at what stage these reports are with the Government. When are you going to take a decision? I am mentioning about the West flowing rivers.

Interruptions

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Again, the problem is how much surplus water is available in the West-flowing rivers and which could be brought down to the East.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM : There is a surplus of one thousand...

SHRI RAMNIWAS MIRDHA : You say this. But the Government of Kerala thinks otherwise.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM : It is in your record.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Lots of things are in our record. We want the States to accept our record. They say they have vast potential of utilising it. This is the argument. Again, it is tied up with the Cauvery dispute and the other matters connected with it. We would again see that even that is solved.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about the lift schemes?

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Let Smt. Geeta Mukherjee speak.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : One clarification. You were just on that point.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I have just hinted because....

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Because that was under discussion. That news which has appeared, has come to

your notice. A GSI representative from Calcutta has already contradicted that there cannot be any existence of such a river. What I was asking is that since this news has been floated in the press, not by Bangladesh Government now but by the World Bank representative. I felt that the Government of India should immediately debunk that news publicly at this stage itself to kill such a kite flying.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Such news or views have been afloat for a long time. I very categorically assert and I repeat right in this House that our stand remains the same which means that our proposal for bringing surplus water from Brahmaputra through Link canal to augment Farakka flows should be pursued and seriously discussed by Bangladesh. That is our stand.

Now I would like to answer some of the points that have been raised by Hon. Members.

Prof Rup Chand Pal, in his opening speech, a very incisive and well-informed speech which actually set the tone for most other speeches, raised a number of points regarding utilisation and cost of projects which I will try to answer just now. I again repeat what I said in some other context, that the backlog in the first four plans was tremendous, our achievements were very little and the backlog has been increasing all these years which has strained the resources of the State Government and that is one main reason. I have also explained why it is not possible for state to concentrate on certain projects only. But, as you know, the House very well knows that the water resources and development of irrigation is in fact a state subject under the Constitution and we have to respect their view point in this matter and in the process of planning, we do not allocate money project-wise.

There is another misconception when our Hon. Members tell us when they meet us "Why don't you allocate money for this project?" That is not how our planning process has worked.

The State Government, after discussion gets a bloc grant and there is a ceiling for the plan expenditure for a particular year and within that amount, *Inter-se* sectoral adjustment is left to the state and it is their wish how much to put into irrigation, and how much to put in certain other works and if this fact is realised, lots of things that are stated here and outside and questions that are asked could in a way be get solved. That is how we go about this.

Two points which Prof. Rup Chand Pal specifically mentioned were regarding the tubewell project of West Bengal Government.

Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee also mentioned this. It is under discussion and we propose to project it for World Bank assistance. For other projects also, we are going for World Bank assistance for the benefit of West Bengal and I can only hope that the World Bank money would not be regarded as tainted money and will be utilised properly.

Again, I would like to mention what states do with planning. I have West Bengal in mind, particularly because many important Member have spoken about it. Their plan allocation for irrigation and utilisation leaves much to be desired. They have not put in lot of money in their Budget allocations.

For four years the money that they have allocated year-wise is much less than the proportionate plan allocation. For example, the plan allocation is Rs. 150 crores for minor irrigation, but in the last three year, it has never exceeded Rs. 22 crores in any year. Now the backlog is so much that they would not at all be able to use it, which means the Plan allocation for minor irrigation as well as medium and major irrigation would not be fully utilised, which means the State Government should give more attention to this factor of development. Even year to year, whatever they provided for minor irrigation, in certain years, has not been spent, sometimes not even half of it. The states have their own problems and I do not think we should discuss it. But what sort of monitoring can we do from here

if this type of thing happens? All that I can say on this occasion is that the states should give a serious priority to the irrigation projects, try to finish those which are in an advanced stage of construction and try to adopt the command area practices at the earliest as a part of their own project formulation so that these difficulties in future will not be brought before us. If we go along that line, then this could be solved. From 1978-79, it may be of interest to the House, we have aid and a policy has been adopted that, minors upto five-to eight hectares should form part of the project cost. Formerly what used to happen was, it would go as a channel and would stop at 100-acre block, and what happens to distribution of water in that 100-acre block or 40-hectare block as we call it now, it was not the project's concern, nor was it provided for the proposals, which means again the beneficiaries had to get together, had to level, had to do this and that. But now the decision has been taken that it will not be a 100-acre block or 40 hectare block but it would be five to eight hectare block which would be provided at project cost, at government cost, after which the field channels, etc., would be constructed by the beneficiaries. This one thing itself can make a lot of difference. But then some hon. Members asked, 'what about the backlog of the minor and distributaries which have not been constructed? There again we have undertaken about 15 million hectares of area in various States under the C. A. D. programme and unless this approach is followed by the states and some serious effort is made in this respect, I do not think there can be much improvement in the situation.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : That means, the field channels of the old projects, your Department will not think any more of taking up with the Planning Commission. Something should be done about this, I think, you will take up. You may not answer immediately.

SHRI RAMNIVAS MIRDHA : That is exactly what I am doing.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Let us hope that this will be taken up later.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is a good idea, a good suggestion.

Mr. Arjun Sethi mentioned about the difficulties of water in Orissa State and so did Mr. Mishra. We are conscious of the problems of Orissa State, flood and other things, and we are trying to do what we can. One effort we are making is, we are having a ground water survey of the whole area done as in other states and we are trying to find pockets in difficult areas, in backward areas, where there is ground water and where wells could be sunk or small weirs could be made for purposes of minor irrigation. He also mentioned about flood schemes which we are making efforts to sanction as they come along.

One thing that was mentioned by a number of members, Mr. Ram Kinker, Mr. Rahi, Shrimati Varma and other Members, was about the Sharada Sahayak canal and the waterlogging problems...

AN HON. MEMBER : Seepage.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Water logging due to seepage. A lot of suggestion came. We are very much conscious, not only conscious but we are acting on them also.

Shri Ram Kinker has been raising it in the Consultative Committess and also in personal talks. Mr. Rahi had to resort to action like dharna in this respect. I am happy to inform the House that the UP Government has accepted many of the suggestion given by the hon. Members. For example it was said that land revenue remissions should be given and also some relief works should be started. They have also accepted the suggestion to have a survey done. Accordingly a Survey Division for seepage and water logging has also been created and the State Government has assured us that they will do all that they can to survey the problem and see that it is solved.

One problem is that there are drains which have been constructed but they do not have sufficient escape outlets and the capacity of a particular outlet is not sufficient. That was also looked into and

I can assure the hon. Members through you that the problems of this canal which covers 14 districts of UP and vast areas which are really water-logged and get affected by seepage would be looked into.

Shri Ram Kinker in the same context mentioned, 'Why not we use plastics for canal lining? This is a very good suggestion. This is a suggestion on which we have been acting for quite some time now. The Government of India recently appointed a Committee and its report has just come. This is the National Committee on Use of Plastics in Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. G. V. K. Rao. It has also made suggestions of this nature. Even to-day there are about 300 km of canals which have been lined by low density polyethylene. So this idea is very much before us. A National Seminar was held some time back to let the experts and the administrators know what advances have been made in this respect and we do hope that this would catch on.

Shri Ram Kinker also mentioned river improvement works on river Kalyani for tackling the drainage problem of the region. That is part of the whole thing and it is being taken care of.

Mrs. Brar mentioned a large number of points and it will not be possible for me to touch all of them. She wanted to know exactly what has been done regarding Thein Dam. It is more a power project and concerns the Ministry of Energy. The Thein Dam project envisages an installed capacity of 600 megawatts and irrigation benefits to about 3.5 Lakh hectares. The project has some inter-State aspects both in regard to sharing of power and water. The project has, however, been cleared on 27th April 1982 by the Planning Commission without prejudice to the rights of the concerned States in the share of power from the project. The estimated cost of the project is reported to be about Rs. 624 crores. The work is in progress and about Rs. 70 crores have been spent upto the end of March 1983. This is the information regarding Thein Dam.

Mrs. Brar also mentioned about the Suttle Yamuna Link Canal and said irri-

gation should be available through this canal to the Punjab areas. The position regarding this is that the Punjab Government have already submitted a proposal for irrigating about 3 Lakh acres through Sulej Yamuna Link Canal in Punjab territory. The capacity of this link has already been accordingly planned as 10,150 cusecs as against 6,500 cusecs to be delivered to Haryana at the border. The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 192 crores in which Punjab's share would approximately be Rs. 30 crores.

Mrs. Brar also mentioned about the problem of waterlogging in Punjab and flood forecasting and upgradation of the technology and taking it to the farmers. This is a part of the Command Area Development concept. I can mention that a lot of new sophistication has been introduced in the working of irrigation and flood control projects. This was also mentioned by Prof. Yadav. As an example of flood forecasting, I must say that there is a network of 151 flood forecasting stations providing flood forecasts, in 51 river basins.

For further improvement in flood forecasting systems, a project has been taken up on river Yamuna with UNDP assistance, under which sensors are being installed for automatic measurement of river level, rainfall and temperature at various points in the catchment. The information will be transmitted by a wireless network to a computer at Delhi. With this arrangement, it will be possible to increase the time of warning, as the flood forecasts will now be derived on the basis of rainfall data, soon after the occurrence of a storm, instead of waiting till the flood water enters the river. So, this is regarding the matter raised by Mr. Chandra Deo Prasad Verma. Then he raised the point about the lift scheme. Here again it is the State Government which should take interest in this, The State Government is taking proper steps.

श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा (आरा) : बिहार में गंगा नदी पर लिफ्ट इरीगेशन के बारे में मैंने कहा था हाई पावर पम्पिंग सैट के विषय में वह क्या हो रहा है ? वहाँ तो कुछ नहीं है ।

श्री एम० रामनोपाल रेड्डी (निजामाबाद) स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को करना चाहिये । वह नहीं करते हैं तो क्या करें ।

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : A scheme to lift 600 cusecs of water 70 feet high from the river Ganga to benefit 26730 hectares in Rohtas district of Bihar at an estimated cost of Rs. 2154 Lakhs has been prepared by Bihar. The Scheme was examined by the Central Water Commission and comments sent to State Government as early as January, 1982. The reply of the State Government is still awaited.

The hon. member raised a point about Bansagar scheme and asked how it is going on and the Sone Modernisation Scheme, Sone Canal. This is also being looked into. A commission has also been set up to go into the matter of Sone water resources and it is expected that they give their report within 2 years.

श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा : 165 किलोमीटर लम्बा बांध लग रहा है जो 1972-73 में स्वीकृत हुआ । उस पर काम शुरू हुआ और अभी तक पूरा नहीं हुआ । पानी घुसता है तो भोजपुर जिले के आधे हिस्से को पानी से डूबा रहना पड़ता है करीब डेढ़ दो महीने तक । उसमें क्या हो रहा है ?

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : You have to tackle your local Government.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mrs. Krishna Sahi has always been raising the question of Mokameh-Barahaiya Tal areas. There are a series of small Lakes covering an area of 410 Sq. miles. There was some dispute between the PWD Department of the Bihar Government and the Irrigation Department and they are trying to sort out these things.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : The Government of India is helpless.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : They are trying to do with the moral support given by hon Members we are making still more efforts. I wish to point out that there is no reason to presume that the state is less keen than what we

[Sri Ram Niwas Mirdha] are. They are very keen. It affects them directly. The Members of the Legislature are very keen about it. They are conscious and they are aware of the problem and they try to solve the problem.

Shri Chandra Deo Verma and Shri Satya Dev Singh said about the delay in the execution of the Buxar Koelwar embankment scheme. As you know, there is no provision for lift scheme in this area. The State Government's document says that the latest estimated cost of the embankment scheme will be Rs. 42 crores. Expenditure is being incurred on the scheme and the work is going on apace. My hon. friend Mr. Satya Deo Singh said about the problems in Saran district. This is the type of problem which is coming up; the bund is coming on a certain part of the river with the result that water is going to the other side, they will not be able to stop it. Then again the question of strangulation of the river, as has been raised by Mrs. Mukherjee, comes into the picture. These are the types of difficult problems which we are trying to solve, technically and otherwise.

References were made to the Chambal Valley project and CAD programmes which are going on in that area. Now, my friend Dr. Mehta is not here. He very strongly pleaded the cause of Kutch. He traced the history and said that it was on the basis of demand for water in Kutch that a Tribunal was appointed. But again the Tribunal's award said as to how the state uses its own water in its territory is its discretion and we do hope that the need of the dry area in that state would elicit support from the state Government. Mr. Nityanand Misra made a couple of points about district Bolangir which is a backward district. We are carrying out surveys and we will make available to the State Government the results of our surveys regarding ground water conditions in Bolangir District and also development of minor irrigation in that District. Now, many hon. Members mentioned about the importance of minor irrigation and they said that we should give the utmost importance to the minor irrigation which we are really concerned

with. The whole system for ground water exploration which we are trying to expand is very considerable and some survey reports are also there. But more detailed reports are in preparation by having a lot of survey and other exploratory work done and the results would give a fillip to the development of small scale irrigation.

As regards our friends from Tamil Nadu, Mr. Era Mohan and Mr. Jakkayan who raised points about Kaveri water problem, I have already said what we propose to do in this direction and therefore we are trying to see how these things are solved at the earliest. Mr. Oscar Fernandes from Karnataka made a point that there should be a discussion between the states concerned and the centre regarding the sharing of Kaveri water and I hope that such talks would bear fruit. Mr. Birbal mentioned about Sidhmukh and Nohar irrigation project in Rajasthan. The position regarding this project is that a revised project for irrigating these areas in terms of the decision taken in this regard is still awaited from the State Government. Mr. Birbal also wanted to know about the lining of Gang Canal. To enable to complete lining of Gang Canal it is necessary first to construct a link canal from Rajasthan feeder up to Sadhuwali head so that the entire canal could be closed and its lining replaced. Proposal for constructing a link canal has been prepared by Rajasthan Government costing about Rs. 12.5 crores, but as its first 6 km. have to pass through Haryana, Rajasthan will have to get concurrence of Haryana Government so that the proposal could be further processed.

Shri D. P. Yadav raised a number of points. He said that the Rashtriya Barh Ayog constituted by the Central Government in 1976 submitted its report in March 1980 and action on its recommendations have not been followed up. I may in this connection, point out that after considering the recommendations of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog, by two Inter-Ministerial Committees set up by the Government of India, Government of India approved the guidelines and instructions for implementation of the recommendation of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog and issued

the same to the State Governments. He also made a point about the development of water resources by remote sensing and we have made a small beginning in this respect and we will continue to do so. He also made some suggestions about the training of engineers and re-orienting the educational system in the engineering course. This subject is before us and various institutions in the country are being consulted and we feel that the course could be strengthened and a sort of new course could be started. In view of the importance of the subject it needs to be given priority. Again the irrigation commission suggested that the subject of Agronomy should also be included in the Engineering course. We referred the matter to various Universities and it is hoped that we will see to it that the engineering course would get suited to our Indian conditions so far as irrigation is concerned.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee again mentioned two suggestions which Mr. Rup Chand Pal also mentioned, that is, that the small farmers who used to get certain advantages by way of subsidy etc. before 1980, should be given subsidy and it should be revived. I am not trying to diplomatically evade the issue but I have gone out of the way by committing my friends in the Agriculture Ministry in that respect by saying that there is a scheme under preparation which would take care of the needs of the small farmers as to what sort of subsidy should be given. That is being evolved and I think that in reply to the debate on agriculture they will describe it elaborately. As regards 1200 tubewells proposal, the World Bank is being approached for financing this and they are trying to help us in this respect. The same holds good with regard to the projects which are in the pipeline of the World Bank aid and we hope the World Bank would give assistance for some of these projects.

1456 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE ;
Excuse me, what about the target of the present year ? That is the point on which I wanted you to specifically say.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The confusion of 3 million and 2.35 odd million hectares is there, because at one stage when the New Twenty-point Programme was evolved, we asked for higher allocation. We thought we could attain 3 million hectares in the remaining years of the Plan. Since we could not get any additional assistance, that 3 million plan is not capable of achievement. Now, it will be 2.3 million hectares or something like that per year till the end of this Plan unless, of course, with the assistance of this House we get some extra funds.

Shri Bhikha Bhai mentioned about the situation in Dungarpur area where there has been submergence but no benefit. Well, Sir, Dungarpur is at a high level and it is not possible for them to provide irrigation. If they can find some small minor diversion works, I think that would help the situation there.

Shri Banwari Lal Bairwa mentioned about the Bisapur irrigation project and also water supply project for Ajmer city and other townships *en-route*. Sir, it is within the jurisdiction of the State Government. So, they should pursue it with the State Government to take it up.

Mr. Rahi's point I have already covered. His main problem was about the water-logging in the Sharada canal system. I may inform him that with the help of the World Bank, a tube-well project is going on and we are likely to have more of such projects.

As regards the Rajasthan Canal, phase -I is finishing very soon and phase-II will finish in a couple of years during this Plan period. These schemes were there at a certain stage and the State Government abandoned them. And if any fresh proposals come from the State Government, we will be happy to consider them.

As regards Bangladesh, I have already answered.

Shri Ram Gopal Reddy mentioned about the Rajasthan Canal as well as Sri Saelam. I thank Shri Ram Gopal Reddy for his sympathy for the Rajas-

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

than people and his desire to make the Rajasthan Canal a national project. This request has been there for a long time and we have not yet been able to do so. Now, his request is for taking over the Sri Sealam Project in the same category,

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All the projects in Andhra have been completed. Therefore, he has touched the Rajasthan Canal, I think.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : No, Sir. In Rajasthan, sand is advancing. That is why I mentioned it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, I have not been able to cover all the points that have been raised, but I can assure the hon. Members, whatever they have said, even though I have not been able to answer, we have taken note of them very seriously and will try to implement them as early as possible.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Sir, in my speech I have raised three points. One is regarding the difference in the assessments between the U.P. Government *vis-a-vis* the planning Commission and the Bihar Government *vis-a-vis* the Planning Commission. Whereas the U.P. Government says that ultimate irrigation potential is 35.5 million hectares, the Planning Commission says it is 25 point something. In respect of Bihar also, there is a big difference. So, how do you propose to resolve this ?

Secondly, there is a difference between the Irrigation Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry regarding assessment of the irrigated area already achieved by us. These are the two points on which I wanted the Minister's reply. Leave apart the PAC question based on the wrong information supplied to the House, but I want to know about the other two points.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, I will start with the so-called wrong information. It was pure error and I

admit right away. I take full responsibility for this. It was a *bonafide* error.

Again, Sir, if I may submit with due respect it was not a major error. What was the target, was reported as the figure of actual realisation. I hope the House will take it in the spirit of genuine error.

But in regard to U.P. and Bihar, we have not been able to get information. All I can say is that we will pursue that and we will see how best it could be reconciled.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL : Yes, Sir, he should at least pursue it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There is some difference in the figures of irrigation. The Ministry of Agriculture collects them from a different source and the Irrigation Ministry figures are from a different source. We have asked the Planning Commission to sort it out and have a satisfactory statistical arrangement by which this divergence..... (*Interruptions*) It is not a divergence, because the terms of reference are different, but since no common figures are available for the benefit of the Members and the public, we have asked them to sort it out with our statisticians and the Ministry of Agriculture.

15 hrs.

Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put all the Cut Motions moved by various hon. Members together to the vote of the House, unless any hon. Member desires that any of his Cut Motions be put separately.

I shall now put all the Cut Motions together.

All the Cut Motions were put and negatived.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Irrigation.

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, 1984, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 67 relating to the ‘Ministry of Irrigation’.”

The motion was adopted

Demand for Grant, 1983-84 in respect of the Ministry of Irrigation

Voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 18th March, 1983		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION				
67.	Ministry of Irrigation	16,69,73,000	1,86,52,000	83,48,65,000	9,32,59,000

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS, 1983-84 COND.

list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Motion moved :

Mr DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 1 to 8 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture, for which 8 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose Cut Motions to the Demands for Grants 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.

A list showing the serial numbers of Cut Motions moved, will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Accounts 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, 1984, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 8 relating to the ‘Ministry of Agriculture’.”

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.