

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 784
Shri Venkatesh. Absent. Shri Penchal-
lah-Absent.

[*Translation*]

What is happening today I think the
Members feel tired now.

[*English*]

Question No. 786-Shri Sreenivasa
Prasad-Absent. Dr. C.S. Verma-Absent.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Why don't you move an adjournment
motion ?

MR. SPEAKER : I think so. I
should take this as a hint.

(*Interruptions*)

Question No. 787-Shri Arunachalam.

Keeriyar Project in Western Ghats

*787. **SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM :**
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION
AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Govern-
ment has submitted any proposal for
Keeriyar Project in Western Ghats
(Tamil Nadu-Kerala);

(b) if so, at what stage the propo-
sal is at present; and

(c) whether it is likely to be com-
pleted within the Seventh Plan period ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-
NAND) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such project has been in-
cluded by the Government of Tamil
Nadu in their Draft Seventh Plan
Document.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir,
the implementation of this vital Keeriyar
project would irrigate the uncultivated,
barren lands, about 20,000 acres in
Tirunelveli and Ramnad districts. At
present the west flowing river flows into
the Arabian Sea. Will the hon. Minister

be pleased to state whether the Govern-
ment of India will take steps to include
this project in the Seventh Plan since it
is an inter-State matter ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir,
I could have given the detailed informa-
tion about this project but since we do
not know and we have not received any
proposal from the State Government,
it is not possible to give. The State
Government has not included this project
in its State Plan.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will
the Government of India take initiative?

MR. SPEAKER : They cannot take
action suo motu.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM :
Diversion of unutilised water flowing
into the Arabian Sea should be done so
that the water can be utilised for the
irrigation purpose which is a long stand-
ing desire and request of the people of
Tamil Nadu. So, whether the Govern-
ment of India would take initiative to
fulfil the desire of the people of Tamil
Nadu to diver the West flowing river
waters for utilisation of the chronic
drought affected areas ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I
can inform the hon. Member that the
Government of India is equally interest-
ed in utilising every drop of water
without letting it go to the Sea.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Sir,
when the Janata Government was in
power, a committee was formed to
study the diversion of West flowing
river waters towards East. The commit-
tee is silent so far. After the forma-
tion of this Committee, it became silent.
Now, may I know from the hon. Minister
what steps have been taken by this
Government in order to implement the
scheme for diversion or to have talks
between the concerned States, namely
Kerala, Tamil Nadu and other States,
with regard to diversion of West flowing
rivers towards East ?

MR. SPEAKER : That was the
only decision of the committee to keep
silent.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : Along with the Janata Government the Committee has disappeared.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Put that question to Prof. Saheb.

SHRI B SHANKARANAND : Sir, I do not want to refer to the Janata Government or any committee which had been set up. But I am really interested in the committee which is looking into the problems of diverting waters of West flowing rivers. We can say that the hon. Member's interest is also our interest and we are thinking of how to utilise this water which is going waste in the sea.

(Translation)

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a question from the hon. Minister regarding Bihar. We have two major projects in Bihar Koylakari project and.....

MR. SPEAKER : I shall permit you if you put a supplementary connected with this question.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Sir, I am putting a supplementary arising out of this question. We have two important projects in Bihar the Koylakari project and the subarnrekha project, on which Government have spent crores of rupees but no work has yet started on them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether special attention will be paid towards these important projects to ensure that work starts thereon.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : We are paying much attention, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you satisfied ?

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Sir, no work is being done on these projects on which Government have spent crores of rupees and here the hon. Minister is replying like this.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K. Mohandas not present, Shri S.G. Gholap not

present. Shri Giridhar Gomango Last but not the least.

Rehabilitation policy for Displaced Persons due to Construction of Projects

*790. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the States to formulate the rehabilitation policy for persons displaced due to medium and major irrigation and power projects on the lines of the guidelines issued by the Government; and

(b) if so, the names of the States which have taken action accordingly ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The Ministry has requested the State Governments that while framing project proposals, satisfactory safeguards for protecting the interests of oustees be kept in view.

Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments. As such, rehabilitation measures as are necessary considering the needs and nature of the problem involved in a particular project are initiated and implemented by the State Governments.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Sir, I would like to know whether the Minister is aware that the Ministry of Home Affairs have formulated guidelines and issued different States regarding implementation of schemes for the persons displaced by the projects. If so, whether on that line, has his Ministry formulated any guidelines to check, at the time of clearing the project to see that the rehabilitation cost should also be taken as one of the components in the project report itself and the displaced persons would be settled in almost all the projects which are implemented by the State.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I can understand the hon. Member's