

the DIC; he has to pay to the Manager of the bank and then get Rs. 5000/-. A big racket is going on. (*Interruptions*). My question is : will the Minister make a categorical announcement in the House, (*Interruptions*) that there would be a time-bound programme for the disposal of cases ? If it had not been done in past cases which upto the period ended on 31st March, will he take steps to have an investigation against the bank Managers or the agents who deals with those cases ? There is a racket going on.

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : There are complaints like this. I have also been in the villages as their representative. (*Interruptions*) I am saying that it is so. I am not talking about Bihar. I am saying that I am aware of this problem. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, Order.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am saying so. If you are in disagreement with me, then tell me. If you contradict what I am saying, then you say something.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : No, we are not contradicting. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There is this problem. We are aware of it. I do not want to cover it up. In fact, when there was a review, we very bluntly told the Banks, Chairmen that there were genuine complaints of this nature, and that it reflected on the nature of functioning of the banks; we were very much concerned about it, and they must take steps to improve it. And about some procedure, i.e. time bound programme etc. which you are suggesting, these are for systematizing the procedure. Where these are detected, by taking firm action we hope to curb it. But I will not say that everyone is involved in it. But there is this problem. I will not deny it. We are aware of it. We are taking steps.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Please allow a discussion under rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER : If there is time, we can allow it, because this is an important subject.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : All right; we will do it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : We will allow it. Now Shrimati Usha Choudhari. Question 354.

World Bank aid for irrigation project in Maharashtra

*354. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank have provided \$ 201 million to India for irrigation project in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the extent of increase in agricultural production and availability of jobs in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Board of Directors of the International Development Association (IDA) have approved on July 16, 1985 a credit of SDRs 164.2 million equivalent to US\$ 160 million) for the Maharashtra Composite Irrigation-III Project.

(b) The Project, at full completion, is expected to increase total value of agricultural production by about Rs. 264 crores and would generate 95,000 full-time additional jobs.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Vidharbha and Khandesh regions of Maharashtra comprise many hilly Adivasi areas where Kharia and Navtha Projects are pending for many years. When Shri Morarji Bhai was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, he gave priority to Ukai project of Gujarat over the claim of Maharashtra. As a result of that, our projects lagged behind. I want to ask the hon. Minister which new projects you propose to set up in Maharashtra in view of the fact that the maximum irrigation potential of Maharashtra is 35 per cent and even

half of it has not been tapped so far ? Besides, I want to know whether he will get the project I referred to completed ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : So far as this project is concerned, sanctioning of the foreign assistance is likely to be over by the end of October. About the completion of the project, it is better that the question is directed to the concerned Ministry, as to when it is going to be completed. They may be able to give a precise answer, with exact accuracy, to the question.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : I had expected a definite answer from the hon. Minister in this regard and had hoped that he would strongly recommend it, but he has not given any such reply here-

MR. SPEAKER : Hope has turned into despair.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : You have furnished many figures about the World Bank loan and have also stated how much employment it will generate, but I would like to say that Upper Wardha Project in Vidarkha, which was scheduled to be completed during the last Five Year Plan has not been completed so far and in spite of getting assistance from the World Bank, our projects pass over from one Five Year Plan to another Five Year Plan. As a result of it, the cost of the project goes up causing loss to the crops. Delay in the completion of the project has resulted in considerable loss in Amjavati and Wardha. I want to ask whether you have ever assessed this loss ? You formulate long term plans which take long time for completion and results in a lot of loss. I want to know whether you would draw up this scheme by making fresh provisions, so that the project could be completed within the stipulated time with the assistance of the World Bank ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I have already stated that the precise and

exact time cannot be given by me. As per the schedule it has to be completed by 1990. The total cost of the project is Rs. 387 crores. The amount that is provided in the year 1985-86 is Rs. 563 million, that is Rs. 50 crores; in 1986-87 it is Rs. 63.2 crores, in 1987-88 it is Rs. 89 crores, in 1988-89 it is Rs. 91 crores and so on.

MR. SPEAKER: You can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : That is why I stated that the accurate or precise date cannot be given by me. I have given the schedule.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRASHEKHAR TRIPATHI: So far we have observed that the irrigation projects, whether they are started with the World Bank aid or with our own resources, prove useless due to their non-completion within the scheduled time and the entire money spent on them is wasted and the objective of irrigation is also not achieved. Will the Government and the Ministry see to it in future and endeavour to complete the schemes within the scheduled time so that the funds are not wasted ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : There is a group which is going into the slippages in various projects to ensure that the slippages are not there in future.

New foreign markets for iron-ore export

*355. **SHRI SRIHARI RAO :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether export of iron-ore to some countries has now declined;

(b) if so, the names of countries to which export of iron-ore has declined of late and the reasons for the same and the details of the foreign exchange lost; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to recapture the lost market or to locate new foreign markets ?