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SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I am in full agreement with what the hon. Member has suggested that we should try to remove the irritants to the extent it is possible. In fact, I am thinking of going to those areas and having a meeting with the Members of the North-Eastern Council as also all the Chief Ministers of those areas and request them that they should try to settle this dispute to the extent possible, and if any assistance is required on behalf of the Government of India, we are prepared to give them.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 108. Shri Mohd. Mahfooj Ali Khan—Absent.

Next question No. 109 - Shri Satyendra Narain Sinha.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your kind attention to question No. 107. It is in my name.

MR. SPEAKER: It has been postponed.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: You have postponed this question overnight. But no reason has been given on what grounds you have postponed this question and when it will be taken up. According to Rule 43, you have admitted it. Once you have admitted it, it cannot be postponed without assigning reason. I know the difficulties regarding the Rane Commission report and agitations are going on in Assam.

MR. SPEAKER It will be answered. Don't worry.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: In your Secretariat's letter nothing has been mentioned.

Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme

*109. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any monitoring and evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme and other schemes of rural employment programmes have been undertaken by the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, the detaild thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIK.R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). The regular monitoring and assessment of the progress of these programmes is primarily the function of the administrative Ministry concerned, namely, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. However, the Planning Commission monitors the progress of these programmes as part of its monitoring of the Twenty-Point Programme. The Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission undertakes evaluation studies of selected programmes. It has currentty in hand the preparation of two separate evaluation studies, one relating to the Integrated Rural Development Programme and the other to the National Rural Employment Programme.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: According to the written reply. it appears that the Planning Commission has made evaluation of certain programmes and at present, evaluation studies are under preparation. The Government ought to have given some findings as a result of these studies already carried out. May I know, if the Government are aware that the allocation of funds to the block has been made without any regard to the level of poverty of the blocks with the result that in many blocks only less than five per cent of the poor have been covered? If so, are the Government considering any proposal to revise the criteria for allocation of funds

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: At the moment, the allocation of funds is made on a block to block basis. We are examining the question of revising this criteria of allocation in the 7th Plan so that the incidence of poverty could be one of the major considerations for the allocation of funds.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Are the Government aware as a result of the monitoring carried out that middlemen have come up between the departments concerned with developments and the beneficiaries with the result that the benefits of these schemes are not reaching the poor and on the other hand, the funds

go to the not so poor people or better off people and consequently the poor are deprived?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There have been, complaints that part of the funds under these programmes has gone to the better off people, small farmers or marginal farmers who are better off than the landless labourers. But the diversion has been limited in this respect. According to our information, not more than 10 to 20 per cent of funds have been diverted in this manner from the beneficiaries. As a matter of fact, major part of the funds allotted has gone to the really poor people. In fact, this is the first time in India that the Government has undertaken a programme which is directed towards the improvement standards of living of the poorest people in our country. According to our statistics, around 40 per cent of the people covered belonged to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes of our population which shows that in spite of minor diversions to the better off people, a considerable amount has gone to the poorest of the poor.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had resolved that under the Rural Development Scheme. effort would be made to raise 600 families above the poverty line every year in the Sixth Five Year Plan. The Sixth Five Year Plan is coming to an end and the Seventh Five Year Plan is about to start. I want to know from the Government through you whether the Government would place its report on the Table of the House in which details are given regarding the number of people who have been brough above the poverty line in the last 6 years, the number of people who could not be brought above the poverty line and what programme has been formulated to bering them above the poverty line?

[English]

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: Sir, the target laid down in the Sixth Plan was that over the five-year period, fifteen million families would be enlisted under IRDP and raised above the poverty line as a result. According to the information available so far, 14.5 million families have been helped

in that way. So, we expect to reach the target and I understand that it may, even, slightly exceed the target.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Mamta Banerjee.

SHRIMATI MAMTA BANERJEE: I would like to know whether the Government is aware that in West Bengal, the poorer people are not getting proper justice from the IRDP programme. I would also like to know whether the Government have any prosal to properly investigate about the money which is given for the Central Government 20 Point Programme.

SHRIKR NARAYANAN: I hope the State Government would take into account the policy of the Central Government in this matter and really implement the policy so that the poor people in Bengal are benefited by this programme.

SHRIMATI MAMTA BANERJEE: In West Bengal, poor people are not getting any facilities from the Marxist Government. There is no proper investigation.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: In West Bengal an overwhelming part of the poor paople have voted for the Left Front Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Is that the answer to the question?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): We are aware that in certain States, the full benefits are not flowing to the people as they should be flowing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Why are you quilty about it? In certain States, these benefits are not going to the people and we are looking into the matter.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Please specify them.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I will specify them at the appropriate time. We are looking into the problem,

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: It is the appropriate time. If you have chosen

to intervene, instead of having this innuendo, if you please specify, it is well and good, and say there are certain States where your party is ruling, there also benefits are not going to the poor people.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: We have received certain complaints. We are looking into them and when we get a proper report, we will let you know. In the meantime, we will try and evaluate measures to see that the funds allocated for a proper programme do, in fact, get their destination.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You should congratulate the young lady who provoked the Prime Minister to reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Well done Sir.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: It is my Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath please. Is he absent? Next, Shri K. Ramamurthy. Again no! Shrimati Kishori Sinha. She is also not there. Really, it is a hat trick.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Sinha may be allowed to represent her Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: What about you? What will you do now? Next, Shri Ramakrishna More. Absent. Shri Anand Singh. It is going to be a sixer. Next, Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik. There you are! She is ever-present.

Maintenance of Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri

*I15. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken steps for the proper conservation of centrally protected temples having religious and tourist importance;
- (b) if so, the amount sanctioned by the Centre and spent during last three years for the proper maintenance and conservation of Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri which falls under the above category; and

(c) what are the conservation and repairing works done during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Against the allocation of Rs. 5 lakes during the years 1981-1984, an amount of Rs. 4,95,264 has been spent for the conservation and maintenance of Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri.
- (c) Deplastering of the walls, grouting of voids and cracks, water-tightening of leaky roofs and restoration of the missing and weathered stones have been completed. In additions chemical preservation of exposed structures and horticultural operations have also been undertaken.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Against the allocation of Rs. 5 lakhs during the years 1981-84 an amount of Rs. 4,95,264 has been spent for the conservation and maintenance of Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri. I think the work has been taken up very slowly. It is such an huge temple. Has the government prepared any estimate for uncovering the plaster on the entire temple of Lord Jagannath at Puri; if so, what is the amount?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO; I don't have the figure readily available at the moment.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: What is the time schedule for funding and completion of this entire work? I do not know whether this is also readily available with the Minister. I want to know regarding part (a) of the question. This is the general question and the Minister has replied by saying only yes. But I want to know about the whole of Orissa and the conservation of Konark Temple. It should be preserved; it is getting decayed day by day. I want to know about Lingaraj Temple and other temples also. is the policy of the government with regard to these temples? Has the government decided to have a separate archaeological circle so that they can pay more attention towards them?