

[Shri A. C. Guha]

of Community Development)—Parts I and II.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने पंजाब के सम्बन्ध में आप को एक पत्र लिखा था...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं ने उसे देख लिया है।

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : मैं उस के बारे जानना चाहता था कि आप की ओर से...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं आप को उस का उत्तर भेज दूंगा।

12.47 hrs.

\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER—  
contd.

श्री न० प्र० यादव (सीतामढ़ी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के द्वारा फिर डा० के० एल० राव का ध्यान उत्तरी बिहार के सीतामढ़ी के अन्तर्गत बागमती नदी की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ। सन् 1963 में श्री अखौरी प्रसाद, चीफ इंजीनियर, नार्थ बिहार, ने बागमती स्कीम के बारे में एक योजना बना कर सेन्ट्रल वाटर ऐंड पावर कमिशन के पास भेजी थी, जिस में महादेव नहर के बारे में दिया गया था। महादेव नहर की खुदाई करने के पश्चात उस नहर से उस इलाके की करीब 50 हजार एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की सम्भावना है। कुछ दिन बाद उत्तरी बिहार से श्री अखौरी प्रसाद जी की बदली दक्षिण बिहार में कर दी गई और उनके स्थान पर श्री चटर्जी उत्तरी बिहार के चीफ इंजीनियर बनाये गये। लेकिन श्री अखौरी प्रसाद जी ने जो स्कीम बना कर सेन्ट्रल वाटर ऐंड पावर कमिशन के पास भेजा था उस को श्री चटर्जी ने रद्दी की टोकरी

में फेंक दिया, और उस के छः महीने बाद श्री चटर्जी ने जो अपनी रिपोर्ट भेजी उस में महादेव नहर की स्कीम की कोई रूपरेखा नहीं है।

श्री चटर्जी ने नेपाल राज्य से करीब कुरसैला पुल तक बागमती नदी के दोनों किनारे बांध बनाने के लिये एक स्कीम भेजी। एक किनारे की तरफ बांध की लम्बाई 105 मील है और दूसरे किनारे पर उस की लम्बाई 103 मील है जिस के बनाने में करीब 3 करोड़ रु० की लागत का अनुमान है। लेकिन मुझे आपके द्वारा डा० के० एल० राव से दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि इस बांध से उत्तरी बिहार के सीतामढ़ी अनुमंडल या मुजफ्फरपुर प्रमंडल की सिंचाई की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है। डा० के० एल० राव ने सन् 1963 में 12 अक्टूबर को बागमती नदी के महादेव नहर का निरीक्षण किया था और सीतामढ़ी में लाखों लोगों की भीड़ में इस इलाके की जनता को आश्वासन दिया था कि महादेव नहर की फिर खुदाई होगी और उससे उस इलाके की सिंचाई की व्यवस्था की जायेगी।

श्रीमन्, अभी करीब 6 महीने से बागमती की स्कीम सेंट्रल पावर ऐंड वाटर वर्क्स के आफिस में पड़ी हुई है। श्रीमन् मैं पुनः श्री फखरुद्दीन अहमद और डा० के० एल० राव को निमंत्रण देता हूँ कि सीतामढ़ी चल कर बागमती नदी और महादेव कैनल का निरीक्षण करें और देखें कि जो चटर्जी साहब ने स्कीम बना कर भेजी है उस स्कीम में कितनी गड़बड़ी है? उस स्कीम से वहां की जनता को कोई फायदा नहीं होगा। श्रीमन्, बागमती नदी उत्तरी बिहार में एक ऐसी नदी है जिसके पानी में इतनी उर्वरा शक्ति है कि एक एकड़ जमीन में यदि बाढ़ का पानी सिंचाई के लायक पहुंच जाय तो एक

एकड़ में 30 मन धान, 20 मन मकई और 25 मन तक बिसारी पैदा हो जती है। जब बागमती नदी का बाढ़ से उस इलाके के किसानों का कोई हानि नहीं है तो कई कारण नहीं है कि उस इलाके की जनता जिनके घर बागमती नदी के किनारे पड़े हैं बरसात में जिस न चाहते हैं कि बड़ के पानी से उन की जमीन की सिंचाई हो, बाढ़ का पानी उनकी जमीन में आये, जब बाढ़ के पानी से उन इलाके में कभी कोई खराबी नहीं हुई है और न होने को सम्भावना है तो फिर इस तरह नदी को बांध बांध कर वहां के किसानों को क्यों तबाह करने की चर्चा उस स्कीम में है ? इसलिए श्रीमन्, मैं आर के द्वारा सिंचाई मंत्री एवं राज्य मंत्री का ध्यान सीता मढ़ी और बागमती नदी की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूं। 1963 में श्री अखौरी प्रसाद सिंह ने यह बागमती की स्कीम बना कर भेजी थी। हकीकत यह है कि उस इलाके की जनता वही श्री अखौरी प्रसाद की स्कीम को पसन्द करेगी। बागमती नदी से ओर उस महादेव नहर से करीब उस इलाके की दो लाख एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की सम्भावना है। इसलिए श्रीमन्, मैं आर के द्वारा सिंचाई मंत्री एवं राज्य मंत्री से से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि श्री चटर्जी की जो स्कीम सेंट्रल वाटर एंड पावर कमिशन के पास पड़ी हुई है उस स्कीम को लौटा दें और श्री अखौरी प्रसाद सिंह की जो स्कीम सेंट्रल वाटर एंड पावर कमिशन के कमिशन के पास पड़ी हुई है उस स्कीम पर अग्रता होना चाहिए। उस स्कीम से उस इलाके की जनता को फायदा होगा और उस से करीब 2 लाख एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई हो सकती है बागमती के दोनों किनारे बांध के बनने से बरसनिया से लेकर कुरीला तक जहां बागमती कोसी में गिरती है दोनों बांध के बीच में 105 गांव आ जायेंगे और इस बांध के बनने के बाद 105 गांव बिलकुल उजाड़ हो जायेंगे। वह बेचारे किसान जिनके कि सैकड़ों वर्षों से नदी के किनारे छोटे छोटे मकान

बो हुए हैं वह सब मकानात बर्बाद हो जायेंगे गांव वोरान हो जायेंगे और उन को उस बांध के बाहर जा कर दूसरी जगह पर घर बनाना पड़ेगा। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन है कि बागमती नदी के किनारे कभी भी बांध नहीं बनाना चाहिए। मैं आर को बतलाऊं कि बकिया नदी में बिना बांध बांधे नहर के द्वारा सिंचाई की व्यवस्था की गई है। इस से मोतीहारी जिले में करीब 40,000 एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई होती है। डा० के० एल० राव ने से मैं आर के द्वारा यह निवेदन करूंगा कि जिस तरीके से बकिया नदी से नहर इत्यादि का प्रबन्ध किया गया है उसी तरीके से बागमती नदी से बिना बांध लगाये नहर का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए। उस में किसी तरीके का बांध नहीं होना चाहिए।

एक और चीज मैं कहना चाहता हूं। डा० के० एल० राव स्वयं अदौरी गांव गये थे जो कि बागमती नदी के किनारे पड़ता है। अदौरी, बखार, चंडिया आदि इन चार गांवों को बचाने के लिए बिहार सरकार की ओर से करीब 4 लाख रुपये मंजूर किये गये हैं। चार गांवों को बचाने के लिए 4 लाख रुपये मंजूर किए गये हैं लेकिन यदि श्री चटर्जी की बांध लगाने की स्कीम सेंट्रल वाटर एंड पावर कमिशन को स्वीकृत हो जाती है तो अभी तो चार गांव को बचाने के लिए 4 लाख रुपये मंजूर किये गये हैं लेकिन श्री चटर्जी की स्कीम जब कुछ ही दिनों के बाद बन कर तैयार होगी तो उसी तरह 105 गांव दोनों बांध के बीच में आ जायेंगे और तब बहुत काफी रकमा देना होगा। इसलिए मेरा पुनः निवेदन है कि श्री अखौरी प्रसाद सिंह ने जो स्कीम भेजी है वह स्कीम ही मंजूर होनी चाहिए। उस स्कीम से सीतामढ़ी सब डिविजन ही नहीं मुजफ्फरपुर मोतीहारी और दरभंगा आ जो 100 वर्गमील का भाग है और जहाँ करीब करीब 1 करोड़ लोग बसते हैं उन पर फायदा होगा और उनकी जमीन की सिंचाई होगी।

[श्री न० प्र० यादव]

अध्वारा नदी जो नेपाल की पहाड़ी से निकलती है उस अध्वारा नदी के पानी में भी बहुत उर्वरा शक्ति है। श्री चटर्जी जो मुजफ्फरपुर के सुपरिन्टेंडिंग इंजीनियर थे उन्होंने आने समय में वहां पर रहने के बाद उत्तरी बिहार में सिर्फ बांध ही बांध बनवाये। अभी एक एक इंच जमीन का भी उन की योजना से सिंचाई नहीं होती है। इसलिए श्रीमन्, अध्वारा नदी में भी जो बांध लगाया गया है उस बांध में वहाँ भी कोई स्विस् गेट इत्यादि का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है जिसका कि नतीजा यह है कि अध्वारा नदी के बगल में जिन किसानों के घर हैं वे सभी आज परेशान हैं और सभी यह मांग कर रहे हैं कि उस बांध को ढहवा दिया जाये। हम लगे तबाह हो गये हैं। आप के द्वारा सिंचाई मंत्री एवं राज्य मंत्रों से मेरा निवेदन है कि अध्वारा नदी में जो बांध लगाया गया है उस बांध में तीन मील, चार मील पर जितना भी सम्भव हो स्विस् गेट बना देना चाहिए और नहर का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए। श्रीमन् उस अध्वारा नदी से भी करीब 50,000 एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की सम्भावना है जब कि उसमें नहर आदि की व्यवस्था होगी।

श्रीमन्, उस के बाद मैं आप के द्वारा सिंचाई मंत्री एवं डा० के० एल० राव० का ध्यान रातो नदी की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ रातो नदी का भी निरीक्षण सन् 1963 में 12 अक्टूबर को डा० राव और भारत सरकार के चीफ इंजीनियर (फ्लड्स) मि० धीर ने किया था। इस रातो नदी के पानी में भी उतनी ही उर्वरा शक्ति है कि यदि रातो नदी से नहर का प्रबन्ध हूँ तो उस इलाके में करीब 50,000 एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की सम्भावना है। मि० धीर ने जिन्होंने डा० राव के साथ उस नदी को देखा उन्होंने वहाँ के किसानों को विश्वास दिलाया था कि बहुत जल्द इस नदी में स्विस् गेट बना कर सिंचाई की व्यवस्था हम करेंगे लेकिन वह फाइल

भी अभी कहीं खामोश पड़ी हुई है। रातो नदी में स्विस् गेट आदि का प्रबन्ध शीघ्र होना चाहिए।

इस के बाद मैं आप के द्वारा सिंचाई मंत्री एवं राज्य मंत्री का ध्यान कमतावा नदी की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ जो कि नेपाल के पहाड़ी इलाके से निकलती है। इसकी स्कीम करीब 4-5 वर्ष से बन कर तैयार है और इस रातो नदी में भी यदि स्विस् गेट और नहर बनाने की व्यवस्था हो जायगी तो इस नदी से करीब एक लाख एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की सम्भावना है।

**Shri Shinkre (Marmagao):** On a point of order, Sir. Since Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed has become the minister in charge of Irrigation and Power, what is the purpose in repeatedly mentioning the name of the Minister of State; Dr. K. L. Rao? At least once he should mention the name of Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed.

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao):** It does not matter.

श्री न० प्र० यादव : मैं डा० के० एल० राव का ध्यान इस तरफ इस लिए आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस इलाके का मैं वर्णन कर रहा हूँ उन्होंने स्वयं जा कर अपनी आँखों से उस को देखा था और वह उस की समस्याओं से परिचित हैं। इसीलिए मैं सिंचाई मंत्री का नाम न लेकर राज्य-मंत्री, डा० राव, को ही निवेदन कर रहा हूँ।

मैं सिंचाई मंत्री से भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वह स्वयं सीतामढ़ी चले और बागमती नदी और अध्वारा नदी को देखें। मैं उन को विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि अगर इन दोनों स्कीम्स को ले लिया जाये, तो दो सौ स्ववेयर मील के भूभाग पर रहने वाले करोड़ों आदमियों को फायदा होगा। इन

योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने के बाद उत्तर बिहार में कहीं बाहर से भ्रष्ट, गेहूँ इत्यादि ले जाने की जरूरत नहीं होगी। मैं सिंचाई मंत्री और राज्य मंत्री दोनों को यह निमंत्रण दे। चाहता हूँ कि वे मई महीने में सीतामढ़ी चल कर बागमती नदी और अछवारा नदी का निरीक्षण करें। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि उन दोनों के निरीक्षण के बाद, श्री अख्तोरी प्रसाद सिंह की जो स्कीम उनके आफिस में पड़ी हुई है, वे जरूर उस स्कीम को ले लेंगे जिस से उस इलाके के किसानों की भलाई होगी।

मैं डा० राव और सिंचाई मंत्री दोनों का ध्यान उत्तर बिहार के बिजली के रेट्स की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इस समय उत्तरी बिहार और दक्षिणी बिहार के बिजली के रेट्स में बहुत अन्तर है। दक्षिणी बिहार के किसानों को सिंचाई के लिए भी और घर में इस्तेमाल करने के लिए भी बहुत सस्ते रेट पर बिजली दी जाती है, लेकिन उत्तरी बिहार के किसानों को सिंचाई के लिए बिजली पर भी काफी पैसा देना पड़ता है और यदि वे अपने मकानों के लिए बिजली लेना चाहते हैं, तो उस के लिए भी उनको काफी पैसा देना पड़ता है। मैं सिंचाई मंत्री और राज्य-मंत्री डा० राव, से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे चलकर उत्तरी बिहार की स्थिति को देखें। डा० राव स्वयं भी बीस मील तक देहात के अन्दर गए थे, लेकिन एक गांव में भी बिजली के बल्ब से उनकी मुलाकात नहीं हुई। इस पर डा० राव ने खुद आश्चर्य प्रकट किया था कि उत्तरी बिहार बिजली के सम्बन्ध में अब भी इतना पिछड़ा हुआ है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तरी बिहार और दक्षिणी बिहार में बिजली के रेट्स के सम्बन्ध में किसी तरह का अन्तर नहीं होना चाहिये।

जहाँ तक माइनर इरिगेशन के रेट्स का सम्बन्ध है, उस में भी उत्तरी बिहार और दक्षिणी बिहार में अन्तर है। उत्तरी बिहार

में दस हजार की जो सिंचाई की स्कीम है, वहाँ किसानों को सी के 75 रुपये देने पड़ते हैं, जब की दक्षिणी बिहार में दस हजार की स्कीम में किसानों को सी के 25 रुपये देने पड़ते हैं और 75 रुपये सरकार की ओर से दिये जाते हैं। मैं सिंचाई मंत्री और राज्य मंत्री, डा० राव, से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जब दक्षिणी बिहार में 75 फीसदी सरकार की ओर से दिया जाता है, तो उत्तरी बिहार में जो किसान माइनर इरिगेशन से सिंचाई करना चाहते हैं, उन पर अधिक रेट क्यों लगता है।

उत्तरी बिहार में ट्यूबवैल की भी व्यवस्था की जाये। मेरा निवेदन है कि जब तक बागमती नदी और अछवारा नदी से सिंचाई की व्यवस्था नहीं होती है, तब तक उन इलाकों में कम से कम एक हजार की आबादी वाले गांवों में एक स्टेट ट्यूबवैल लगाया जाये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने जो समय दिया है, उस के लिए मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as many as 23 or 24 members have participated in the discussion on these demands. I am very grateful to hon. members for drawing relevant and pointed attention to many of the problems and difficulties relating to irrigation, flood control and power development schemes. Before I take up the various observations, some of them very useful, made by hon. members, I would like to express my gratitude to them for the complimentary references they have made about me, my colleague Dr. K. L. Rao and my department. It was only because of the cooperation from the members of the legislature and the people outside that it was possible for me to achieve something in my capacity as

[Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed]

minister in the Assam Government. I look forward to the same cooperation and help from the Members of Parliament also in order to be able to discharge the very difficult task and responsibilities of minister in charge of this ministry.

I realise the significance and importance, which have been attached and is evident from the observations made by hon. Members to the problems of irrigation, flood control and power in our country, because on the development in these three different directions, really depends the prosperity of our country and, to a great extent the solution of the food problem with which we are faced today. Unfortunately, 1965-66 has been a very bad year for us when on account of drought and shortage of rains, it was not possible for us to provide adequate water both for irrigation and power purposes in our country. We are situated under very peculiar circumstances in India. We have abundance of water, but unfortunately in places which do not need water, we have during rains more water than we need and if in places, where we have abundance of water, we can retain it, our production and productivity will increase and there will be no scarcity of water. It is to this question of controlling nature and utilising water that we have to address ourselves and draw up our plans and schemes, so that our future development may not suffer.

I would like to take up these three items separately. In the first place, while I entirely endorse the observations made by hon. members that a good deal has to be done for the development of irrigation I do not agree with their criticism that nothing has been done by this Ministry in that behalf during the last 14 years and there has been some defective planning so far as the schemes are concerned.

Sir, in this context, I would like hon. Members to remember that when we are considering any proposal or any scheme or any demand, that has to be considered not in isolation but in the context of integrated proposals schemes and the demands with which the Government is concerned. Unfortunately, when we discuss these heads separately we forget that there are other needs to be attended to by the Government, that expenditure has to be incurred and money has to be found for other services, for other necessities of life and also for removing backlog and imbalances in other departments. It is unfortunate that when a particular Demand is taken into consideration, at that time, hon. Members think of that Demand in isolation being important and requiring all attention.

This Ministry is concerned with the questions of planning, of giving technical advice, and of telling what schemes if undertaken will be helpful in the development of our country. But so far as the execution of those schemes is concerned, though our technical advice is available to the State Governments to a great extent, this has largely to be undertaken by the State Governments. Even so far as the question of planning is concerned, we cannot ignore that planning has to be done within limited resources available at our disposal. Therefore, whenever the question of planning a scheme comes up we are always confronted with the question whether we have the necessary funds for the purpose of taking up a particular plan or scheme.

I would like hon. Members, before criticism against this Ministry is offered, to understand what is the gigantic problem with which we are confronted. I was going through the figures, and I find that in our country we have nearly 337 million acres of land which can be regarded as sown area. Out of this 337 million

acres of land there is only about 50 per cent of the land which can be irrigated. Of this 50 per cent there is only about 112 million acres which can be irrigated through major and medium irrigation schemes. The rest can be irrigated through either small surface water schemes or small ground water schemes. Before the beginning of the First Five Year Plan, that is to say, in the year 1950-51, the area irrigated under major and medium projects was only 23.8 million acres. Therefore, when we undertook the task of preparing schemes and plans for bringing the areas under irrigation, we were left with the task of bringing nearly 88 million acres of land under major and minor projects.

13.15 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Hon. Members will appreciate that, during the last three Five Year Plans, it has been possible for us to take schemes which will cover an area of 44 million acres of land. I would ask hon. Members to ponder over this, whether the acreage covered during the last 15 years, during the last three Plans, can be regarded as such where the hon. Members would be justified in saying that we have not paid proper attention to irrigation in our country.

Now, as regards the outlay—I shall also come to this point later on—and the remaining 44 million acres for which we have to provide major and minor irrigation, we think that it will be possible for us to undertake schemes and plans in the Fourth Plan and also in the Fifth Plan, if I get the cooperation of the hon. Members and we have the necessary funds. We have now got a department in which we have now adequate number of engineers with experience with which, I am sure and I hope, it will be possible to provide irrigation facilities for the remaining 44 million acres of land in our country.

It has been said that there is shortage of food. Shortage of food is due to many reasons. Shortage of food is due to the fact that proper facilities for irrigation do not exist, proper facilities for providing fertiliser to the cultivators do not exist, proper facilities for investment in the purchase of seeds and other things necessary for cultivation do not exist. All these together add up to the difficulties of the cultivators and also add to the shortage of food in the country. The Ministry of Agriculture has taken notice of all these things, and I am glad to place before this House that recently I find there is co-ordination and there is close collaboration between the work undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and the various other departments which are necessary to help the Ministry of Agriculture for the purpose of increasing food production.

So far as this Ministry is concerned, I would like to point out that our average food shortage at the present time, ignoring the food shortage which has taken place on account of the abnormal conditions during the present year, is about 5 million tons of foodgrains. These 5 million tons of foodgrains can easily be had, apart from taking other activities, by increasing facilities for the purpose of irrigation and by providing funds for that purpose. Out of the 44 million acres of land which we want to bring under irrigation, if some funds are provided to us, in the course of a few years it will be possible for us to provide necessary facilities for irrigation which will give the required food for which there is shortage in the country.

Sir, I was going through the figures. I find that even those schemes which have been taken up under the Third Five Year Plan could not be completed for various reasons during the Third Five Year Plan. If funds for those schemes are provided, it will be possible for us to make up this deficiency in food.

[Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed]

So far as outlay is concerned, hon. Members will realise that up till now we have spent nearly Rs. 1,260 crores on irrigation and in the Fourth Plan there is a provision for another Rs. 810 crores. But I submit that, in order to be able to provide irrigation facilities which will be helpful in covering our normal shortage of food, if about Rs. 1000 crores are placed at the disposal of this Ministry it will be possible for us to execute the schemes in all the States and thus help the country in increasing food production.

Therefore, it is not correct for hon. Members to say that nothing has been done or that the planning has not been proper so far as irrigation is concerned. I submit that we can take pride in what has been planned and what has been achieved by us during the last 15 years, since we attained independence, in the matter of providing irrigation facilities in our country. I would not like to go into these details. My colleague, Dr. Rao, in a very able manner has placed all the figures before this House and, I am sure, he has been able to convince the House that whatever has been done by us in this regard is such about which we can with satisfaction say that if more funds are placed at the disposal of this Ministry we are in a position to render better accounts and show better results.

Now, Sir, together with this problem, we have also to consider the question of flood with which various areas in our country are affected practically every year. The States which are mostly affected by floods are Assam, North Bihar, Eastern U.P. and the deltaic region in the South. I do not know much about this. But, I think, the average loss on account of floods is heavy every year. So far as Assam is concerned, I can inform the hon. Members that when I was the Finance Minister there, I examined the records of the last ten years and

I was amazed to find out, in the course of ten years, the average loss in foodgrains, in properties and loss in cattle and so on was about Rs. 9-10 crores every year. In some areas it was much more while in other areas it was less. It can also be said that of the shortage of nearly five million tons of foodgrains in our country. Perhaps, the shortage of 3½ million tons of foodgrains is on account of floods which we have in our country. If we can take steps for the purpose of not doing away with floods altogether but for removing the rigour of floods, I think to a great extent, we can save the foodgrains which are destroyed from year to year. So far as I have been able to see the amount of foodgrains destroyed every year on account of floods comes to about 3½ million tons. But, the shortage in foodgrains is only one and a half million tons. From this the hon. Members will realise the importance of controlling the floods so far as our country is concerned. It is in this context that we have to think and take steps so that while, on the one hand we are preparing and executing schemes and plans for improving the irrigation facilities, on the other we will have to take schemes which will reduce the rigour of floods in our country and particularly in some of the States which are very badly affected on account of these floods every year.

During last year, 1965-66, I would like the hon. Members to remember that, in spite of our financial difficulties, we thought that necessary importance was to be given for increasing the food production. We were able to provide additional central assistance amounting to about Rs. 15.5 crores for various schemes in the country. Out of this, Rs. 10 crores was given by way of additional assistance to Nagarjunasagar Project in Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 160 lakhs for the Tungbhadra high-level canals, Rs. 100 lakhs for Tawa Project in Madhya Pradesh, Rs. 80 lakhs for Mahanadi Delta Scheme in

Orissa, Rs. 50 lakhs for Kosi project, Rs. 50 lakhs for Gandak project and Rs. 110 lakhs for six irrigation projects in Kerala and other places.

Therefore, the hon. Members will realise that in spite of the difficulty with regard to resources, we thought that in order to overcome the difficulty in production due to shortage of rains throughout the country, it was necessary to give additional assistance for the purpose of advancing the action on the schemes under execution. Practically, all over the country, we gave additional central assistance to the States. In this connection, I would also like the hon. Members to remember that so far as expenditure on schemes like providing irrigation facilities or flood control is concerned, the same is provided for in the annual plan and the Five Year Plans of the States. Of course, there are certain schemes for which the responsibility for the entire expenditure has been borne by the Central Government. But, they are very few as compared to the number of schemes which are taken under the States' sectors.

Now, the hon. Members must realise that the annual plans or the Five Year Plans are prepared on the basis of resources available in each State. Out of the resources available, that fund has to be distributed not only for one kind of work but for various activities in a State. To a large extent, though we think that priorities should be given agricultural production and for expenditure on irrigations, flood control and power, we cannot, at the same time, ignore the demands of the various States for various other activities where also they thought that priorities should be given. Some substantial amount should be spent on them. I would like to quote the figures of the various States. The hon. Members will be pleased to see that in the First Five Year Plan, out of a total outlay of Rs. 1,050 crores, nearly Rs. 299 crores were spent by the States on irrigations. It came to nearly 28%; in the Second Five Year Plan, out of a total outlay of Rs. 2,083 crores, the

outlay on irrigation was Rs. 369 crores and the percentage came down from 28 to 8.

In the Third Five Year Plan, out of Rs. 3,847 crores, the outlay on irrigation was Rs. 571 crores and the percentage came down to 15. Here, in this matter, we have no control because, if a State Government wants that a certain amount out of their allocation has to be spent on a particular activity, we cannot interfere with their decision and enhance the amount. The hon. Members will also realise that in spite of our efforts and our advice to take up more and more of these schemes, the tendency on the part of the State Governments has been that they have been spending less and less percentage, in every subsequent plan periods, on schemes for providing irrigation facilities in these areas. We particularly find that this is so in those States which are backward and where they have not got much resources.

As against this, the hon. Members will find that in power, out of the total outlay of Rs. 1,050 crores, the outlay in the First Five Year Plan was Rs. 179 crores i.e., nearly 17%; in the Second Plan, out of the total outlay of Rs. 2,083 crores, the outlay on power was increased to Rs. 442 crores giving an increased percentage of 21; in the Third Five Year Plan, out of the total outlay of Rs. 3,847 crores, the outlay on power was Rs. 1,081 crores giving an increase of 28%. So, the hon. Members will realise that the States thought that it was more necessary for them to spend more money on power. Therefore, the reduction, in so far as irrigation is concerned, was inevitable because the expenditure for other activities also had to be found.

In this connection, I would also like to point out that so far as measures for flood control are concerned, in the First Plan there was an expenditure of only Rs. 13.77 crores, in the Second Plan it was Rs. 49.15 crores and in the Third Plan period it was Rs. 85.5 crores. I have not been able to work out the percentage but the percentage will



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come to only 4 or 5 per cent of the total outlay in the States. How can a State, particularly a State like Assam, Bihar or Eastern UP, with not much resources, be in a position to undertake expenditure for the purpose of controlling floods with such small investment in those areas? These are matters about which we have to give serious consideration and take steps so that these defects can be removed.

In this context I would also like to take up the question which has been raised by hon. Members regarding the imbalance in development in various States. I realise that one of the fundamental principles and bases of our Plans is that we should try to remove these imbalances which exist in various parts of the country; but, in spite of our profession it has not been possible for us to adhere to the basic principles which we have accepted in our Plans. I find that so far as the States, which were fortunate enough to have industries and, as a result, were able to raise more resources, are concerned, it has been possible for them to spend more money both on power and irrigation. Take, for instance, the State of Madras or the State of Maharashtra. I find that, in spite of the fact that they are much ahead in power as compared to States like Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and other poor States, they are spending more percentage of their annual allocation on power, with the result that their per capita consumption of power is going up and the generation of power is also going up in those areas. How it is possible to remove these imbalances? That is only possible if we take a decision that so far as States which have no resources are concerned, the Central Government will provide the expenditure for developing those areas not out of the State Plan ceiling but outside the Plan ceiling. The moment we try to incur expenditure under the Plan ceiling the State is confronted with finding out funds not only for these projects but for many other projects with the result that irrigation;

flood control and power schemes have to suffer. When everyone is anxious that these three activities should be increased I know that I shall get the co-operation of this House in placing before the Planning Minister as also the Finance Minister that due importance should be given to this aspect so that the imbalances in our country may be removed by taking up such Central schemes as will be helpful in fair and equal development of the country.

It is true that these things have to be considered within the overall resources of the States and Central Government but I personally feel that the time has come when we should give a new thought and have a new approach to these various problems so that it may be possible for us to overcome the many difficulties with which we are faced. I have no doubt that in this effort I shall have the unstinted support of the hon. Members of this House.

So far as power is concerned, we have the potential to develop nearly 41 million kilowatts of power. During the three Plan periods it has been possible for us to have as much as 10.5 million kilowatts of power. Though it is not sufficient—we would like to have much more power than we have—I think, that in this brief period of 15 years our progress is not insignificant. My colleague, Dr. K. L. Rao, said the other day that the average per capita consumption in our country is about 80 kilowatt hours. As compared to Japan it is nothing because in Japan it is nearly 1,500 and in some other developed countries in the West and the United States of America it is as much as 3,000 to 5,000 kilowatt hours. Compared to that, how backward are we?

**Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur):**  
What about the rate of charges?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed.** I will come to that. Compared to that, there is yet a good deal that has to be done and we are anxious to develop power in the country. But for that also we require resources and within our

limitation, I feel that what we have done in the course of the last 10 or 15 years is not insignificant.

Now the question arises whether the time has come when we should think of change in our policy with regard to the supply of powers. In our country a vast majority of the people—the percentage, of course, varies from State to State; in some States it is 80 per cent while in others it is 70 per cent or 60 percent; but an overwhelming majority of our people are living in the rural areas and, therefore, the question arises whether we have to conceive of plans which will enable us in supply of power to a large number of people living in the rural areas. That is considered necessary not only for the purpose of helping them to increase agricultural production but also for the purpose of stimulating rural industries. No amount of expenditure in constructing big buildings, big dams and big roads will improve the economic conditions of our people unless and until we take such actions as will help in increasing the production and productivity of foodgrains and other crops with which a cultivator is concerned. If today we are in a position to help a cultivator earn five times more than what he is earning through his efforts, it means that he will have surplus funds for the purpose of purchasing consumer goods and with this surplus for purchasing consumer goods there will necessarily increase the demand for consumer goods in our country, that means, other industries will come up in our country and it will also solve the problem of unemployment. Therefore I consider that it is of vital importance to us that the power we generate should now be utilised to a great extent to electrify the rural areas both for the purpose of providing energy for our pump sets and for stimulating rural industries.

In this connection we have taken some steps. Before the First Five Year Plan only about 3 000 villages had electricity; now, the number has gone up to nearly 55,000 villages in

the course of the last three Plan periods. But it will be fallacious to judge the development and extension of supply of electricity to the villages merely on the number of villages.

The other day, my colleague gave some figures and he divided villages into three categories....

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द (करनाल) : ग्रामों की संख्या कितनी है ।

श्री फरुक्द्दीन अहमद : अभी मैं बतला रहा हूँ । ग्राम सुनिये ।

He divided villages into three categories. There are villages which have a population of less than 500 people; there are villages which have a population between 500 and 1000 people and there are villages which have a population of over 1000 people. If we consider our achievement having regard to the number of people in the villages who have been benefited—I was just considering the figures—we find that nearly 31 per cent of the people living in the villages have been given electricity. In regard to the number of villages, it comes to 9.6 per cent.....

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : केवल 55 हजार गांवों को बिजली मिली है और ग्राम कहते हैं कि 30 प्रतिशत बिजली मिली है । यह कौनसा हिसाब है ।

Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed: According to the number of villages, our achievement is about 9.6 per cent. But according to the number of people who have received the benefit, our achievement is about 31 per cent. We are thinking of taking up a programme of providing electricity to 1 lakh of villages in the next three or four years and by the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan, we have a scheme under which nearly two-thirds of the number of people living in the villages will have the facility of electricity. So, while I agree that it is in this behalf that we have to divert our attention and do much more than what we have

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been doing in the past, it will not be correct for us to think that nothing has been done in this behalf by the Ministry or that we have ignored the necessity of providing electricity to the rural areas.

**Dr. Ranen Sen (Calcutta East):** Are the electricity rates going to be reduced for the rural people?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** With this is linked up the question of providing electricity to rural people at a cheaper rate.

We have been taking action in this behalf also. The hon. Member will realise that only recently we have taken an action under which the rate of over 12 p. will be subsidised by both the Central Government and the State Government—50 per cent subsidy will be given by the Central Government and 50 per cent subsidy will be given by the State Government. I think, in the next year, nearly Rs. 60 lakhs by way of subsidy will have to be given by the Central Government under this scheme. The hon. Member is quite justified in saying that what has been done is not enough. It is my desire and my objective that electricity should be provided even at a cheaper rate than 12 p. to the rural population. In some of the States which are lucky enough to have sufficient power and which have been having this power development for a large number of years, the power rate is about 8 p. I wish it was possible for us even to fix 6 p. and ask the States to supply power to rural areas at that rate. But that again will mean that if we put this burden on the State Governments, the future development will suffer. Therefore, for the present we have to concentrate on developing power in every State and also improving the transmission system and the regional grid system and, if possible, the grid system throughout the country. It will therefore, be possible for us to examine the question of making the rate uniform not only with regard to agricultural purposes but also for other

purposes. That is the objective we must have before us and if we can do so—I am sure it will depend on what resources we are able to invest for this purpose—it will be possible for us to attain the objective which the hon. Members have in view and I can have no quarrel with them that this should not be done. But the question is whether we have the means to do it.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda):** What has been done in regard to the raising of rate for industrial purposes?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I can deal with that question also. We can certainly take up this question. But the question arises whether it will be possible for our industries also to bear the burden of increased rate. The hon. Member must remember that we are in the infancy stage so far as our industrial development is concerned. It is not only necessary for us to provide consumer goods for our country but it is also necessary for us to produce the consumer goods and the other industrial goods in such a large number that we may be able to export them outside. It is only through exports that it may be possible for us to earn foreign exchange for our country which will be helpful in various other directions of development. Therefore, I would not like at this stage to put an additional burden on industries which they will not be able to bear. This is necessary not only for the purpose of internal consumption but also having regard to the export of commodities which these industries will be turning out.

I submit that so far as relieving the burden on rural sector is concerned, we have no difference with the observations made by the hon. Members but the difficulty is that today we are not in a position to do so. We shall make every effort in that direction and see to what extent we can further reduce the burden on the rural population and also increase the facilities of providing electricity to the people concerned.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** How far have you succeeded in fixing, uniform rates throughout the country? Even within a State there are different rates.

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** So far as the rates within a State are concerned, they have a number of categories, and I know action has been taken, and for one category they have fixed similar rates all over the State. The question is whether you have the same rate for all kinds of things for which electricity is supplied in a State.

For instance, there is a difference in the rate for agricultural purposes and for industrial purposes. It depends on the quantity of power consumed by a particular concern and so on. All these questions are involved. As I have already pointed out, we have various means through which power is being generated. There is the hydro power; there is the steam power; there is the power by diesel oil. All these and the cost of production vary from place to place. Unless and until it is possible for us to have such a system by which we can pool all the power generated in our country, it will not be possible for us to have a uniform rate for the States all over the country.

These are the general observations which I have to offer with regard to the very useful suggestions advanced by the hon. Members. I will now take up some of the points raised by hon. Members.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta (Alwar):** I am making a suggestion....

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** Let the hon. Minister finish.

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I am sorry Dr. Singhvi is not here. He had observed as follows—he was quoting a survey report; this is what he said:

"You are also aware that the Plan targets have failed miserably both in the field of irrigation

and in the field of power. I would like you to read from a summary of the Report of the Programme Evaluation Committee which I think constitutes the severest possible indictment of the working of the Governmental plans in these two major sectors."

After I heard these observations, I was myself surprised and I wanted to have a look at the report of the Programme Evaluation Organisation. I sent for it and also for the summary which is prepared by the Ministry and I found that the quotation which he had given did not find a place either in the report or in the summary. I do not know where from the hon. Member got the summary....

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir):** He should be informed in writing.

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I just wanted to ask him if he could help me in finding out this particular passage in either the report or the summary; that would have been very helpful to me.

In this connection I would also like to point out that this Programme Evaluation report, which Dr. Singhvi has mentioned, does not cover the power sector, and to that extent the hon. Member is not correct in basing his judgment on power projects. In the field of major irrigation projects, the study pertains only to eight projects executed during the very first Plan. The report nowhere mentions anything of the type that the hon. Member has quoted. As far as the Ministry of Irrigation & Power is concerned, the main interest in the report is with regard to utilisation of benefits. Of the eight projects discussed, my colleague has already mentioned about the peculiar circumstances of Kakrapar and I do not wish to add anything further on the subject. The total irrigation potential of the other six projects, leaving aside the Tungbhadra about which I shall speak later, is 18 lakh acres, and

[Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed]

of this I am glad to say that 93 per cent has, by now been utilised. This sizeable achievement has brought immense benefits to the people in these areas.

Regarding Tungabhadra, there has been some difficulty due to reorganisation of States. Sufficient funds were not available for this project. There has been some delay in building up the potential on the Left Bank Canal. Apart from the delay in building up potential, there has been difficulty in speeding up utilisation also on account of the crop pattern envisaged in the project. Tungabhadra Project is designed for dry crop irrigation and since there was not sufficient experience in this field, it has led to delay in utilisation. With the new hybrid varieties of seeds that are now being developed, particularly of jowar and bajra, it is hoped that potential created by the Left Bank Canal would be utilised speedily.

In view of what I have placed before this House and the need for more irrigation and power projects in the successive Five-Year Plans, the activities of the Central Water & Power Commission have increased considerably and increasing demands are being made on the Commission for specialised services. Besides, the Commission is called upon to provide technical assistance to friendly foreign countries. The Central Water and Power Commission may also have to function as Consultants to some of the State projects being financed through World Bank loans, etc. With the formation of the Indian Service of Engineers, the organisational structure of the Central Water & Power Commission would have to be reviewed, at the same time taking note of the need to build up expertise for which continuity of knowledge and experience is essential. The procedures for technical scrutiny of projects received from the State Governments/State Electricity Boards have also to be streamlined so as to ensure expedi-

tious action. In order to equip the Central Water & Power Commission to discharge its responsibilities adequately, it is considered expedient to review the functioning of the Commission. It is accordingly proposed to set up a high level Committee to go into this question and to recommend measures to be taken. Dr. A. N. Khosla, Governor of Orissa, who had been long associated with the working of the Central Water & Power Commission and the Ministry of Irrigation & Power and who is one of the most distinguished engineers in the country, has at our request, very kindly agreed to accept the Chairmanship of this Committee. It is hoped that, on the basis of the recommendations of this Committee, it would be possible for the Central Water & Power Commission to play an even more useful role in the planning, execution and co-ordination of schemes relating to irrigation, flood control and power development.

Some of the hon. members have referred to one or two important things and I would like to take them up.

Shri Subodh Hansda has referred to the progress of work on the Farakka Barrage Project. Government attach great importance to the speedy completion of the Farakka Barrage Project which is primarily intended for the preservation of the Port of Calcutta. In addition, this Project will provide a vital through-communication link over the Ganga between the districts of Malda and Murshidabad in West Bengal. Besides, the project provides a number of additional benefits, including dependable water supply to the metropolitan city of Calcutta and its environs, river transport in the Ganga-Bhagirathi throughout the year, lesser flood hazard by improved drainage, and so on. This matter has been considered by me. I knew that there was some difficulty on account of shortage of

funds. I, on my own, have undertaken the responsibility of not slowing down the working of this project....

**Shri Subodh Hansda** (Jhargrain): Has the hon. Minister seen the press report dated the 13th April, appearing in all leading newspapers of Calcutta that his project will not be completed by 1975 because of the continued interference of the officials?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I have already said that, apart from the necessity of providing facilities to Calcutta Port, there are other questions involved, particularly the international question. I would not, therefore, like the work of this project to be slowed down. So on my own authority I have said that the work will not be slowed down. I shall take up the matter of providing further finances necessary with the Finance Minister in the month of June or July and I have no doubt that, with his help, it will be possible for me to find the necessary finances.

Then there are the inter-State problems like the Krishna, Godavari and Narmada. I would not like to go into details about them, but I would like to point out to the hon. members that, as soon as I am able to get away from the Parliament, I shall try to meet the Chief Ministers of various States individually to acquaint myself with their problems and with their difficulties, and after that, bring them together in order to solve these problems. In this behalf I may point out that towards the end of this month I am meeting the Chief Minister of Maharashtra; after that, I will be meeting the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and I will try to bring them together. (Interruptions)

**Shri Basappa** (Tiptur): How about meeting the Chief Minister of Mysore?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I shall meet all the concerned Chief Ministers.

**An hon. Member:** This is how they neglect.

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** It is far from my mind to ignore any of the State. (Interruptions).

श्री न० प्र० यादव : बिहार को भी न भूलिये ।

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I am going to Bihar day after tomorrow. (Interruptions).

**Shri Jashvant Mehta** (Bhavnagar): Narmada project requires top priority.

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I hope I shall get the co-operation of the hon. Members and also of the Chief Ministers concerned. After all, we have to think of the country as a whole and whatever delay is made in this behalf will really stand in the way of our development. I personally feel that the time has come when it is necessary for us to take some major projects both for irrigation and flood and power, not within the State Plan ceiling but outside the State Plan ceiling; they have to be planned and executed by the Centre and later on, if necessary, they can be handed over to the State Governments.

14 hrs.

श्री ब्रज बिहारी मेहरोत्रा (बिल्हीर) : मैं मन्त्री महोदय का ध्यान रामगंगा के बांध की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ, जो कि दस बरस से बन रहा है। वह कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ? कृपया बतावें ।

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** So far as Narmada valley project is concerned, as hon. Members know, it is going to cost over Rs. 1,000 crores and it will be impossible for any State to undertake it. Even if a few States are interested, it will not be possible for them to find the resources within their plan ceiling. A project like this will have to be taken up in a big way.

**Shri Jashvant Mehta:** I would like to seek one clarification from the hon. Minister. What is his approach regarding the finance for this project?

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** I cannot but refer to what has been stated by Shri Liladhar Kotoki from Assam regarding Kopili Hydro-electric project. I would like to inform him that the project report on this scheme has been delayed because of the detailed studies which have to be carried out to determine the extent of the problem arising from the existence of a large number of caverns and sink-holes in the lime-stone terrain and the remedial measures necessary to overcome this difficulty. The Assam State Electricity Board have taken up further exploration and drilling work on the lines recommended by the Board of Consultants and the Yugoslav experts. The Geological Survey of India has to carry out geo-mapping and ground-water survey. The project report can be finalised by the State Electricity Board only after completion of detailed investigations. Though they are anxious to include this project in the Fourth Five Year Plan, it now seems that the report will not be available before the end of next year. What further action can be taken will have to be considered only after this report is received.

In this connection, I would like to inform the hon. Members that so far as the Flood problem is concerned, recently one expert from the U.S.A. has come—Mr. Wheeler. In fact, he will be going to Assam in about two, three days' time and he will be spending there not only about two, three months but also undertake serious studies of the erosion problems arising out of Brahmaputra and other rivers in our country. I hope that, after he submits his reports to us, it will be possible for us to undertake in a big way some of the schemes which will help in stopping erosion from rivers.

Mr. Dwivedy is not here and so I will not refer to the points raised by him. Mr. Gajraj Singh Rao is also not here. Mr. Yadav referred to the Bagmati Project in North Bihar. The Project Report has recently been received by the Central Water and Power Commission. The State Government have proposed the scheme for inclusion in the Fourth Five Year Plan. Shri Yadav also referred to Mahadev Nallah irrigation scheme. Recently this has been discussed with the State authorities and a scheme report is awaited from them.

**श्री रामेश्वरानन्द :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं भी कुछ पूछना चाहता हूँ। (व्यवधान) माननीय सदस्य क्यों बोलते हैं? क्या केवल उन्हीं को बोलने का अधिकार मिला हुआ है? उन को लज्जा आनी चाहिए। मन्त्री महोदय ने दक्षिण भारत के बारे में सब कुछ बताया है और प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये हैं। क्या हम को कुछ पूछने का अधिकार नहीं है?

**श्री न० प्र० दादब :** चियर से पूछ कर बोलिए।

**श्री रामेश्वरानन्द :** मैंने उपाध्यक्ष महोदय से ही पूछा है, परन्तु माननीय सदस्य क्या होते हैं?

**श्री मृत्याल राव (महबूबनगर) :** स्वामीजी होते हुए भी उनको लज्जा नहीं है। दूसरों को वह कहते हैं कि लज्जा आनी चाहिए।

**Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed:** Before closing, I would like to share with you our ideas with regard to the future planning for Irrigation and Power projects in this country. The area which can be ultimately irrigated by major and medium irrigation schemes is assessed at 112 million acres. Out of this 24 million acres had been developed by 1951; the schemes undertaken since the First Plan will, on completion, bring an additional 44 million acres under irri-

gation. This would leave another 44 million acres to be exploited in future. It is my intention that we should frame projects and programmes in such a way that these 44 million acres are exploited during the course of the next 20—25 years. In other words, we should undertake new schemes to benefit about 10—11 million acres in each succeeding Plan period. The long-term Plan that I have in mind is to bring in the entire irrigation potential of this country under major and medium projects by about 1985. This alone, I feel, would lay sure foundations for the growth of a sound agricultural economy. Investigations on a number of projects which may be undertaken have already been carried out. I propose to initiate action to identify the remaining projects and to carry out detailed investigations in order to achieve the targets I have mentioned above.

With regard to power programme, unless planning is done sufficiently in advance, the benefits cannot be realised to cope with the load development. Further, long-term planning is necessary to ensure the most economic pattern of generation, transmission and distribution in the entire country. In this context, it is necessary to have a perspective planning for a period of 20-25 years. Some work has already been done in this direction and the surveys conducted so far indicate that by 1980-81, the demand will go upto about 64 million KW. The power plan in future has to be fitted in the potential available in the various parts of the country in respect of hydro, thermo and nuclear power. It has been estimated that the total hydro-electric potential in the country is 41 million KW. In order to ensure full exploitation of this potential, action has already been initiated regarding investigation of schemes. Under the United Nations Special Fund Assistance for 62 Hydro Projects, investigations of 50 projects have already been taken in hand. Investigations of the remaining projects are proposed to be undertaken shortly. In regard to Thermal Projects,

preliminary studies are being made in the light of the recommendations of the Energy Survey Committee.

Though the time allotted to me was 45 minutes, I have already taken more than one hour and I would not like to encroach upon the time of the other Demands. I may submit in this connection that many of the points raised by the hon. Members regarding schemes which are in the Plan and also which are not in the Plan will be given my personal attention and whatever is possible in the context of what I have stated will be done. I shall give them my personal consideration and see how we can utilise them in increasing our activities to cover wider areas.

**Shri R. S. Pandey (Guna):** I want to ask something about the Narmada Valley Project.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We cannot convert this into a question hour. The hon. Minister has taken more than one hour to explain the things. There are a dozen Members standing.

**Shri R. S. Pandey:** I have not participated in the debate. Only one question about Narmada Valley Project.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I cannot allow.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे एक प्रश्न पूछने दिया जाये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : घाड़र, घाड़र।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मुझे एक मिनट दीजिए। यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है। मुझे केवल एक प्रश्न पूछने का अवसर दीजिये।

Some hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will allow only Swami Rameshwaranand.

श्री बलरजित सिंह (उना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस मन्त्रालय के मातहत वक्ता



[श्री बलजित सिंह]

बोर्ड आता है, लेकिन उसकी चर्चा न सदन में हुई है और न मन्त्री महोदय की तरफ से उसके बारे में कुछ कहा गया है। मैं इस बारे में कुछ जानकारी चाहता हूँ। पाकिस्तान में और यहां वक्फ बोर्ड बने हैं। पहले जो रिलिजिय आइन्ज पाकिस्तान में थे, उनके इज्जाने में हिन्दुस्तान में रिलिजिय आइन्ज को, जैसे शिरोमणि गुरुद्वारा प्रबन्धक कमेटी अमृतसर को, जाय-दाद और जमीन दी गई थी। फिर उनसे वह जमीन वहाँ वापस लेकर वक्फ बोर्ड बना दिये गये।

उत्तरदायक महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर।

श्री बलजित सिंह : मैं इसके मुतालिक अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have not called the hon. Member. He should resume his seat.

श्री बलजित सिंह : शिरोमणि गुरुद्वारा प्रबन्धक कमेटी ननकाना साहब के लिये सेवादार रखती है, उस पर खर्च करती है जो कि तकरोबन एक लाख रुपये साल है, जबकि ननकाना साहब के गुरुद्वारे की आमदनी 10 लाख रुपये साल है, लेकिन पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट उसकी मरम्मत और प्रबन्ध के लिये कुछ खर्च नहीं करती है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is going on even when I have asked him to sit down; he may please sit down.

श्री बलजित सिंह : मेरी विनती है कि वह एक लाख रुपये सालाना का खर्च या तो यहां का वक्फ बोर्ड दे या पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट से लेकर उनको दिया जाय जो कि पाकिस्तान में खर्च होता है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. How can we go on like this?

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मन्त्री महोदय ने जितनी योजनाओं का वर्णन किया है, बाढ़

नियन्त्रण के बारे में या सिंचाई के बारे में, वे सब की सब प्रायः दक्षिण भारत के सम्बन्ध में हैं। मैं सिर्फ इतना जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस जमना नदी की बाढ़ से भी बहुत बड़ा इलाका तबाह हो जाता है, क्या इस पर भी कोई बांध बनाने का विचार है, चकरीता आदि में, ताकि जनता को बिजली मिल सके और पानी उचित मात्रा में मिल सके। पाकिस्तान बन जाने से भाखड़ा का पानी भी काट दिया जाता है, तो क्या ऐसी कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: May I answer on behalf of the hon. Minister in charge? A dam on the Tons river, a tributary of the Jumna is under very serious consideration, and it is very likely that it will be taken up.

Shri R. S. Pandey: May I ask only one question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am very sorry. If I allow the hon. Member, I shall have to allow half a dozen others.

Shri Priya Gupta (Katihar): I want to ask one question. We have not spoken at all on these Demands.

Shri Muthyal Rao: I seek your permission to ask one question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member is going to set the ball rolling, then everybody would take it up.

श्री बलजित सिंह : मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि गुरुद्वारा प्रबन्धक कमेटी का जो एक लाख रुपया खर्च होता है, वह इस वक्फ बोर्ड से दिया जाय।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

I shall now put cut motions Nos. 7 to 21 to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of the Heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 67 to 69, 132 and 133 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power."

*The motion was adopted.*

[The motions for Demands for Grants, which were adopted by the Lok Sabha, are reproduced below—Ed.]

**DEMAND No. 67—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,97,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of Ministry of Irrigation and Power."

**DEMAND No. 68—MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,34,37,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of Multi-purpose River Schemes."

**DEMAND No. 69—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,00,01,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum

necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

**DEMAND No. 132—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,95,24,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multi-purpose River Schemes'."

**DEMAND No. 133—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,80,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 41 to 43 and 127 relating to the Ministry of Health and Family Planning for which 4 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members desirous of moving their cut motions may send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating which of the cut motions they would like to move.

**DEMAND No. 41—MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved;

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,72,000 be granted to the