

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put Amendment No. 16 moved by Shri Khurana to vote.

*Amendment No. 16 was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 133 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clause 133 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is

"That clauses 134 to 136 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted*

*Clauses 134 to 136 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

*"That clause 1, the enacting formula and the long title stand part of the Bill"*

*The motion was adopted*

Clause, 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title were added to the Bill.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

16.45hrs.

BETWA RIVER BOARD (AMENDMENT)  
BILL

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Betwa River Board Act, 1976, be taken into consideration."

I also move that on page 1, line 1 of the Bill, 'Forty Second' may be substituted as 'Forty fourth' and on page 1, line 4, '1991' may be substituted as '1993'

The Betwa River Board Act, 1976 was enacted for the establishment of a Board for the creation of a reservoir at Rajghat by construction of a dam on the Betwa river and for the regulation of such reservoir. The reservoir thus constructed was named as Rajghat Reservoir. However, there is a tradition of naming the reservoirs and projects after great national leaders and having regard to the fact that Rajghat dam Project is located near Jhansi, it is felt that it would be appropriate to rename the said reservoir after the great nationalist warrior Maharani Laxmibai. The proposal has the concurrence of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. To rename of Rajghat Reservoir as "Rani Laxmibai Sagar", it is necessary to amend the Betwa River Board Act, 1976.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above object by amending the Sections 3 (g) and 12 (2) (b) of the Betwa River Board Act, 1976 by substituting the words 'Rajghat Reservoir' by the words 'Rani Laxmibai Sagar'.

MR CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Betwa river Board Act, 1976 be taken into consideration."

Now, there are a number of amendments to the Bill. Mr. Mohan Singh, are you moving your amendments?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Sir, this Bill is of a very limited nature. The reservoir is being named after Maharani Laxmibai; who is a source of inspiration for all of us. But merely substituting the name is not sufficient. much more should be done in her memory. The structure reservoir of should modified. I am giving this suggestion but at the same time I do not want that the Government should reject it on the pretext of my amendment. There fore, I am not moving my amendment.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Sir, the name is being changed. There is no doubt that the new name is a very good. I welcome it. Therefore, I am not moving my amendment regarding eliciting public opinion.

PROF. JENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and I wholeheartedly welcome it as it lies in my Parliamentary Constituency. From today onward, the Rajghat reservoir will be know after great Nationalist warrior Rani Laxmibai. This is actually a great honour to the people's feelings. It has also honoured then glorious history of Jhansi. Therefore, I welcome this Bill. I hope and expect that the House will pass it unanimously without any amendment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards some points. As from today this reservoir

will be named after the memory of a great personality, therefore, it becomes my duty to draw hon. Ministers' attention towards some issues. The employees who have been working in this project for the last 10-15 years are still temporary. This is a project of Government of India. I want to draw the attention of hon. Minister to the fact that time and again the employees have launched agitation to press their demand to regularise them. I would like to draw hon. Minister attention towards this fact also that the people of those eyilalge of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh which had submerged have not been given any compensation for their houses, fields and trees even after papse of a period of 30 years. Hon. Minister, should today itself make an announcement in the House, regarding paying compensation to them. Hon. Minister must be remembering that at the time of evacuating people from those areas of M.P. and U.P which were likely to be submerged, both the State Governments had promised to provide employment to one member of each family, whose land was likely to be submerged. Today, I want an assurance from him in this very House to the effect that he would fulfil his promise which he had made at the time of acquiring their houses, lands and trees.

He had also made another promise to the effect that Government would rehabilitate the displaced persons on the vacant land of the Gram Sabha or of the State Government in U.P. and M.P. but the same has not been implemented till date. Government should pay attention towards it.

I would like to say one thing more that the water collected in the reservoir during this rainy season should be diverted to the fields of the farmers, particularly to Lalitpur district. If Government considers to provide water to Lalitpur district then it must first complete the work on Jakhon Lift Canal. The work for which funds were provided are

[Prof. Rajendar Agnihotri]

you incomplete. Likewise other canals are also lying incomplete which should have been completed by now, I would also like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards this point that if any change is made in the length of the Jakhlon Canal given in the proposed plan, the people of Lalitpur district will not tolerate it and stalemate may be created.

16.56 hrs.

[MR.SPEAKER in the Chair]

This will prove to be a great hurdle in the completion of this project. I would therefore, like to draw his attention towards it so that he may give directives to not to cut the proposed length of the canal. I want an assurance from the Government in this regard.

Likewise, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are not given fund for it on time and the funds which are provided for it are spent elsewhere. Therefore, I suggest that committee comprising of 5 members should be formed and the hon. Minister himself should associate with it and ensure that the funds meant for this work are not diverted. If the wastage of funds goes on in this manner then it will take many years to the complete this project. It will not be completed even during the next 15 years and farmers of U.P. and M.P. will be ruined. Therefore, I request that Government should give an assurance that water will be provided for the fields of the farmers without any further delay. Presently both the Governments are under president rule, therefore funds should immediately be provided to them.

with these words I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: This Bill is very simple, it is only the name that is being changed every time. Therefore, extensive discus-

sion cannot take place in this regard. If we hold a long discussion on this Bill, many other matters would be left. Therefore, the hon. Members may please speak as only what concerns the Bill.

SHRI PREM CHAND RAM (Nawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not find any need to deliver a speech in this regard and with regard to the amendment Bill changing the name from Rajghat Jalashay to Lakshmbai, I support the Bill.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to submit that there are a number of other water reservoirs in the country which should be dedicated in the name of the national heroes, many more reservoirs need to be constructed so that the country may develop more and more.

At the same time there is a river called Sarkari which causes heavy loss of life and property every year. If a dam is constructed over this river, a lot of development can make place there. I would like to appeal to the Government to construct the bridge on the river immediately and name it after the name of a great national leader.

With these words I conclude.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Betwa River Board (Amendment) Bill. The Britishers did not give freedom to us as a gift, rather the innumerable revolutionaries shed their blood to attain it, and the name of Maharani Lakshmi Bai tops this list. Therefore I support the proposal of changing the name. The dam of Betwa river falls under the constituency of Shri Rajendra Agnihotri while the place of origin of the river falls in Vidisha which happens to be my constituency. The two subsidiaries of this river are Vah and Sagad, on which a dam was to be

constructed. Amount of Rs. 80 lakh has already been spent. However, the work in this regard has been discontinued at the instance of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of forests and Environment. I would urge upon the Minister of Water resources to construct the dam so that the water for irrigation in Vidisha district may be utilized.

17.02hrs.

[English]

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER -Cont

#### Postponment of Half an Hour Discussion

MR. SPEAKER : I have to make an announcement please. I have to inform the House that the Minister of Power has requested that Half-an-Hour Discussion about the reservation for Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes in Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking after privatisation listed for today may be postponed because he is not well; and the Member who wanted to raise this also has agreed to the postponement.

The discussion is accordingly postponed and it will be taken up after some time.

#### STATEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF INDIA EXPRESSING HIS OPINION ON

17.03 hrs.

[English]

- (i) Scope and extent of disciplinary authority of the Election Commission in respect of officer and staff deployed for election work ;and
- (ii) Scope and extent of authority in the matters of deployment of forces to maintain law and order to ensure free and fair elections, keeping in view

the constitutional and legal position that maintenance of law and order is primarily the State subject.

ATTORNEYGENERAL OF INDIA  
(SHRIMILONKUMARBANNEJEE): Hon.  
Speaker and Members of the House.

Pursuant to the request made by the hon. Speaker to furnish my opinion on two specific points. I have taken the liberty of making a statement. which, I believe, is based on some precedents with regard to these points. Thereafter subject to whatever decision the hon. Speaker may take, clarifications may be asked for.

with the permission of the Chair, my I read the statement. It is an honour and privilege to address this august assembly. I have been asked to give my opinion on two issues that have been referred to me by this House. I have been asked to give my opinion, firstly, as regards the scope and extent of disciplinary authority of the Election Commission in respect of officers and staff deployed for election work and, secondly, about the scope and extent of authority in the matter of deployment of forces to maintain law and order to ensure free and fair elections, keeping in view the constitutional and legal position that maintenance of law and order is primarily a State subject.

Before taking up the first issue on the scope and extent of the disciplinary authority of the Election Commission, it seems necessary to indicate what sort of role the founding fathers of our Constitution expected the Election Commission to play. Dr. K.M. Munshi had this to say in the Constituent Assembly about the Election Commission. I quote:

17.05 hrs.

"We must remember one thing, that after all an Election Depart-