

question. We are unable to spend whatever money is allocated in one year Budget because we are getting only four to five months to spend. The Central and State Governments are unable to spend the money wholly. So, we are surrendering the money to the Government. That is the system which is being followed now. Even the economists and jurists also have recently suggested to the Government that instead of the one-year budget, we can have a two-year budget. Supposing a two-year Budget is allowed—or you are going to have it—the term of the parliamentarians also can be raised from five to six years. That is the suggestion made by the jurists and economists. (*Interruptions*) Is there any proposal to have a two-year budget system, and the extension of the term of parliamentarians from 5 to 6 years?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The hon. Member has asked a very interesting question . . .

MR. SPEAKER : Do you approve of it ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is all the better, coming as it does, from the AIADMK.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : It is a very interesting question. We already have a notional budget in the shape of the five-year Plan.

As far as the spending capacity is concerned, I had the honour to be the Finance Minister of the biggest State of U.P. for five years, and I had no difficulty in spending money . . . (*Interruptions*) Just a minute... I am not copying a particular State where deficit financing was resorted to, and the money was not spent on these programmes. We spent the full amount of money, rather more money for Plan expenditure, and did not incur any deficit financing. It depends on what type of Finance Minister they have got in their States.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has just stated that a new Ministry called the Ministry of Programme Implementation has been established by the Hon. Prime Minister

for monitoring purposes. In this connection, the hon. Member and others have also submitted that the work on budgeted schemes start after 3 or 4 months after the Budget is presented and the funds lapse. I want to know whether the Programme Implementation Ministry has taken any steps to check this under-utilisation of funds? Have you been informed in this regard? Has the Ministry made any recommendations for giving priority to certain things so that programmes are implemented properly? Has it furnished any such report?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The hon. Member may be aware that the aforesaid Ministry was set up only a year ago but it is working regularly and has given several valuable suggestions. However, whenever a new economic policy or a new system is adopted, it takes time to be fully effective. But it has certainly made an impact. Reports come in regularly, specially in regard to our major projects, and we enquire from the concerned Departments before sanctioning fresh funds whether the earlier allocations have been spent?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Have they furnished any report in this regard?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**Development of Process Technology for  
Extraction of Metal from  
Polymetallic Nodules**

\*743. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether process technology for the economic extraction of metal values from polymetallic nodules found in the seabed has been developed in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any steps are proposed to be taken in that direction;

(d) whether personnel with requisite training for cover designing, engineering and consultancy services in nodule mining,

offshore platforms and sub-marine pipelines are available in the country;

(e) if not, the steps taken by Government for training of personnel for the purpose; and

(f) whether any foreign personnel are working in the aforesaid area and if so, their number and the nationality ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The process technology for the extraction of metal values from polymetallic nodules has been developed. This work is being done in four laboratories in India. They have developed eleven process routes, out of which four, after critical evaluation, have been found to be feasible. These are being upscaled to semi-pilot project level.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir. No foreign personnel are working in India in any area of polymetallic nodules programme.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : May I know whether the four process routes have been found feasible, and whether they are of international standards developed in advanced countries and are adequate to meet our requirements when we ourselves start the operations ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Out of four routes, I think they will narrow down finally to one or two routes as the feasible way of extraction. But we have enough number of scientists who have got experience in this to be able to accomplish this process of extraction ourselves in time. At this stage, it is only done on a laboratory scale.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the technological process that we have developed be adequate to meet our needs

and the international standard of the advanced countries of the world. Will you kindly enlighten about the number of personnel available in designing, engineering and consultancy services in nodule mining, off-shore platforms and submarine pipelines— in each category separately ? Why I have put this question is because your Annual Report is completely silent about it ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : As far as the technology is concerned, it has not been developed fully so far anywhere in the world. It is under the process of development. We hope by 1990 we would be able to set up a pilot plant. But the exploitation probably can take place only by 2000 or 2010 AD. As regards the number of personnel available in each category, I think I will have to collect it and send it to you.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Has India got permission or a licence for exploration and exploitation of polymetallic nodules so far; if not, when do they expect to get that ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : We are to make our application this year for getting a licence for exploitation of the mineral nodules. This will be processed under the United Nations system what is called the Preparatory Commission or the International Sea Bed Authority. I cannot say exactly by what time the clearance will come.

#### Technical Processes Developed by CSIR

\*746. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the major technical processes developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) from 1984 to 1986; and

(b) the actual application of these processes in different industries and their results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.