

The State Governments have been increasing water rates from time to time. However, the increase is not adequate. It is also impressed upon the State Governments to provide adequate funds to complete the on-going schemes with the least possible delay. Command Area Development Authorities are also being set up on major projects to take necessary measures to expedite utilisation of the potential created.

SHRI C. K. CHANRAPPAN: The Statement appears to be a routine statement of the Government. But a very shocking fact has been revealed by the said Seminar. The discussions have revealed that more than 50 per cent of the water is being wasted by the inefficiency of the Government in running the irrigation scheme. I really thought that the Government would react to that. I would like to know the reaction of the Government to this.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I do not think the use of the word 'waste' is appropriate. In fact, what happens is that, in the reservoir, for instance, there are evaporation losses. How do we stop that?.....

AN HON. Member: How much?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: 10 to 15 per cent. Again, in the canal, while the waters flow, there are seepage losses. Lining of the canals is an effective remedy, but the lining is very expensive. The resources position is known to the members. Though Government has accepted the principle, if we go on lining the canals, the other development activities, irrigation activities, will suffer. We have to take a balanced view. These losses are not waste, they are because of the structure of the canals, soil structure, etc. Particularly in northern India where canals are dug and where we have the alluvial soil structure, the water losses are more. In the canal distributive system, the losses

are there. But Government is well aware of the problem and we propose to line the canals when the resources position eases.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: In the statement, the Government say on page 2:

"There is a lag in the utilisation of irrigation potential created."

I would like to have an explanation from the Government as to what exactly it means by saying "a lag in the utilisation of irrigation potential", and, if there is any lag, what is the remedy that the Government suggests for the full utilisation of the water resources that we are creating?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: This is really a very important problem. There is a lag in the sense that when potential has been created, it is not fully utilised. Though at the all India level the figure is 84 per cent of water utilisation, there are individual places where water utilisation is quite low. Therefore, the Government of India has decided to have 50 Canal Command Authorities to provide for better water management, improved utilisation, etc as also a number of other steps are being taken.

MR SPEAKER: Now, the Question-Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

मध्य प्रदेश के अमलाई तथा अन्य आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में यूकिलिस्ट के वृक्ष लगाये जाने के विरोध में अन्त्यावेदन

* 475. श्री बमराह प्रधान : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पेपर मिलम, अमलाई के प्रबन्धक मध्य प्रदेश के महडोल जिले में अमलाई तथा अन्य आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में आदिवासियों

की उस भूमि में, जो कि उनकी जीविका का एक मात्र साधन है, यूकलिप्टस के पौधे किमके आदेश पर लगवा रहे हैं,

(ख) क्या उस क्षेत्र के आदिवासीयो ने इसका विरोध स्वरूप प्रधान मंत्री और मुख्य मंत्री को ज्ञापन भेजा था; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने उपरोक्त स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुए उक्त वृक्षारोपण रोकने के लिए कोई निर्णय लिया है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहेब पी० शिन्दे) (क) राज्य सरकार ने सूचना दी है कि यूकलिप्टस के पेड़ पट्टे की भूमि में या आरक्षित वन क्षेत्रों में लगाए गए हैं। किमी आदिवासी अथवा गैर-सरकारी भूमि में यूकलिप्टस के पौधे नहीं लगाए गए हैं।

(ख) इस विषय में आदिवासियों द्वारा या उनकी ओर से प्रधान मंत्री या मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री को दिए गए किमी ज्ञापन या अभ्यावेदन का पता नहीं चला है।

(ग) राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि भूमि के अभाव में इस मिलने गत दो वर्षों से बन्दूत कोई पेड़ नहीं लगाये हैं।

Allotment of Undeveloped Plots to Landless Labour in Madhya Pradesh

*477 SHRI NATHU RAM AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state whether the work of allotment of undeveloped plots to landless labour in Madhya Pradesh is almost complete and is awaiting full release of grant-in-aid from his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): The Scheme for Provision of House-sites to Landless Workers in Rural Areas has been transferred to the State sector with effect from 1st April, 1974. The question of releasing any funds to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the implementation of this Scheme during 1974-75 does not, therefore, arise.

Working of Food Corporation of India in Punjab

*478. SHRI B S BHAURA: SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government is not satisfied with the working of the Food Corporation of India in that State;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been conducted into the working of the F.C.I. in the State; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). The Punjab Government have recently brought to the notice of the Government of India their dissatisfaction about certain delays on the part of the Food Corporation of India functioning in Punjab in starting procurement operations of Kharif cereals this seasons and other allied matters. A detailed report in the matter has been obtained from the Food Corporation of India and is under the consideration of the Government.