

देना चाहिए। वहाँ पर सूखे की वजह से हजारों लोग वहाँ से पलायन करते हैं और पूरे देश के अन्दर फैले हैं। वह इलाका बहुत ही पिछड़ा हुआ है। ऐसी स्थिति में अगर मध्यप्रदेश शासन कुछ नहीं कर पा रही है, अगर वहाँ से कोई प्रयोजन नहीं आया तो क्या वहाँ की स्थिति को देखते हुए क्या यह जरूरी नहीं है कि केन्द्रीय शासन उस पर ध्यान दे ?

राव बहोन्द्र सिंह : माननीय स्पीकर साहब, जहाँ तक इस प्रोजेक्ट का ताल्लुक है, मैंने यह तो अर्ज कर दिया है कि भारत सरकार के पास कोई स्कीम स्टेट सरकार से नहीं आयी है। दो हजार हेक्टेयर तक भूमि की सिंचाई के लिए जितनी स्कीम होती हैं उनको स्टेट सरकारें भारत सरकार को नहीं भेजती हैं। उनको स्टेट सरकार अपने आप ही मंजूर कर लेती हैं।

जहाँ तक रायपुर जिले का ताल्लुक है, मध्यप्रदेश में सब से ज्यादा सिंचाई के साधन रायपुर जिले में हैं। मध्यप्रदेश में औसतन सिंचाई का रकबा है उसका 23 प्रतिशत रायपुर जिले में है। इसलिए आनरेबल मेम्बर की इस बात को मैं ठीक नहीं समझता कि रायपुर में सिंचाई के साधन कम हैं।

श्री केयूर भूषण : यह धान का इलाका है और धान के इलाके में पानी की बहुत जरूरत पड़ती है। उसके साथ ही यह एक फसली इलाका भी है। इसलिए रायपुर जिले की तरफ देखने का दृष्टिकोण जो है वह सही दृष्टिकोण नहीं मालूम होता है क्योंकि धान के इलाके में पानी की अधिक व्यवस्था करना पड़ती है। रायपुर जिले में सूखा होने और एक फसली इलाका होने के कारण से जहाँ पानी की अधिक आवश्यकता है। उस क्षेत्र में पानी नहीं पहुंच रहा है जिसकी वजह से रायपुर का

इलाका अभी भी अकालग्रस्त है। वहाँ के लोग वहाँ से पलायन कर रहे हैं। इस बांध से उस इलाके में 3 लाख 30 हजार एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई हो सकती है। यह प्रदेश के अन्दर जीव के लिए पड़ी हुई है, इसके बिना पलायन और अकाल नहीं रुक सकता। मेरा निवेदन है कि केन्द्रीय शासन इस पर ध्यान दे।

राव बहोन्द्र सिंह : मध्यप्रदेश महोदय, मैंने अर्ज किया कि हमें इस स्कीम की जानकारी नहीं है। माननीय सदस्य चाहेंगे तो हम जानकारी राज्य सरकार से लेकर उनको बता देंगे, लेकिन माननीय सदस्य जो कह रहे हैं, उस बात को दो तरफ से देखा जा सकता है। इनका कहना है कि रायपुर में धान ज्यादा होती है, इसलिए पानी की ज्यादा जरूरत है और मैंने बताया कि रायपुर जिले में सबसे ज्यादा सिंचाई के साधन मुहैया हैं और धान भी इसीलिए ज्यादा पैदा होती है।

श्री केयूर भूषण : मेरा कहना यह है कि जहाँ पर सिंचाई नहीं है वहाँ पर पुरो तरह से अकाल की स्थिति है।

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : There are other schemes also from Chattisgarh area which are pending with the Centre. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to how long he will take to clear off the schemes from here.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I will require a separate notice to give a specific reply.

News item "New service needed to save Himalayas"

*108. **SHRI R. L. BHATIA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item

captioned "New Service needed to save Himalayas" appearing in the Times of India, New Delhi dated 21 July, 1981 which highlights the problem of silting of Dams and the need for soil conservation measures;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what are the soil conservation measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is concerned about the serious problem of soil erosion and land degradation in the hill areas resulting in siltation of reservoirs and recurring floods. To meet the problem, special emphasis is being laid on programmes of soil and water conservation, protection of the environment and afforestation.

(c) The following important schemes are being implemented with Central assistance:

(i) In order to conserve and restore the Himalayan eco-system a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "Soil, Water and Tree Conservation in the Himalayas" is in operation since the Fifth Plan.

(ii) To reduce siltation of reservoirs and degradation of their catchments, a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme called "Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects" is in operation since the Third Plan.

(iii) To check the hazards of recurring floods and sedimentation and to increase the retention capacity of the watersheds, a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Floodprone Rivers of the Indo-Gangetic Basin" has been launched during 1980-81.

(iv) For controlling shifting cultivation in the hill areas of the

North-East, a Central Sector Scheme is in operation since the Fifth Plan.

In the State Sector, the concerned States are taking soil conservation measures under their own schemes/programmes.

Recently, the Central Department of Environment has set up a National Eco-Development Board with the main objective of identifying the Critical eco-systems in the country, specially in hilly region, and for preparing operational blueprints of projects for ecological preservation in an integrated manner. In close collaboration/consultation with the State Governments, the Board will adopt a multipronged approach, which will include constitution of Eco-development Task Forces drawn from ex-servicemen and organising Eco-development Camps for enlisting the support of the youth force.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Sir, the dams in Himalayas are the result of our collective effort, but management of water is posing a very big problem to the country. This problem is assuming very large proportions with the result that all the estimates of the engineers have proved wrong. For instance the Ram Ganga Dam is now silting at the rate of 450 per cent above the estimates which the engineers provided. Similarly, in respect of Sharda Sagar Dam, the silting is at the rate of more than 200 per cent above the estimated design rate of the engineers. And similarly, in Bhakra Dam we are finding this problem which is assuming a very large proportion. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the co-ordinated effort which has been made by all the agencies quoted in his long statement? What is its result? We must know the results because the problem is very serious and all the attempts of the engineers have failed. It is a national problem.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: There is co-ordination among all these agencies which I have mentioned plus other agencies which I have not men-

tioned. They are all working towards the end to reduce the rate of siltation. It can be said that the rate of siltation has increased as the hon. Member has stated on account of deforestation and denudation of our hills and degradation of our forest areas in the catchment regions. But we are trying to look after the problem through various ways. Recently as the hon. Members are aware we have been very strict about conversion of forest land into non-forestry purposes. We are also planning to impose more restrictions through another comprehensive Bill which we are thinking of so that soil conservation is more effectively tackled.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Government consider of setting up of mini-reservoirs at the highest levels of Himalayas and also let us know whether there is any national policy of afforestation? States are also doing the same thing. Is there any co-ordination between the Government of India and the States in this matter? Are you building mini reservoirs at the highest level of 10,000 ft?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: There is complete co-ordination in the matter of afforestation between the States and the Centre because the policies of the Government of India are implemented through the States. As the House very well knows the Prime Minister is very keen on afforestation. The States have been asked again and again to revise upwards their targets for plantation of trees—not only plantation but protection of trees. Larger sums are being allocated even outside India in the catchment areas of the rivers which are tributaries to the Ganga. For instance we have taken up work in Nepal the afforestation work through His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

I do not understand what the hon. Member means by saying 'construction of reservoir in the higher regions of Himalayas'. Unless he specifies the areas I am not able to reply.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: My point was at the height of 10,000 ft.

MR. SPEAKER: There is the question of feasibility.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: I have given the names of three dams and the reservoirs.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL: For soil conservation we have to have the co-operation of the hilly people, especially people living in the areas of Himalayas. Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna a social worker has been travelling through Himalayas—from Kashmir to NEFA, for the last couple of years. He has been educating people in those areas to protect forests and about the falling of trees through his "chipko" slogan. Does the Government propose to encourage such people who are doing very good social service to this country by which there can be soil conservation and preservation of trees and save the country from the present seeming disaster?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The Government greatly appreciates the efforts of people like Mr. Sunder Lal Bahuguna. Apart from that, Government's own agencies are working towards the achievement of the same objectives.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Gopal Reddy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: He is not in the list.

MR. SPEAKER: He is taking very keen interest like Mr. Bhatia.

श्री एम० राम गोपाल रेड्डी : अध्यक्ष जी, मर्ज बढ़ता गया ज्यों ज्यों दवा की। जितना आप कर रहे हैं उतने ही हमारे रिजर्वॉयर्स सिल्ट से भर रहे हैं। जो रिजर्वॉयर्स 100 साल के लिये बनाये गये हैं वह 50 साल में ही भरते जा रहे हैं। यही नहीं नदियाँ भी सिल्ट से भरती जा रही हैं और इसीलिये फ्लड्स आ रहे हैं। मैं मंत्री जी

से जानना चाहता हूं आपके 'लान्स जर्नल' अच्छे होंगे, आपका काम जो हो रहा है उसका रिजल्ट क्या हो रहा है? जैसा माननीय भाटिया जी ने कहा ऊपर एक छोटा प्रोजेक्ट भी बना दीजिये ताकि सिल्ट को रोका जा सके।

राव वीरेन्द्र सिंह : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं क्या बताऊं यहाँ हाउस में क्या दिखाऊं कि अफारेस्टेशन का काम कैसा हो रहा है। मैं ग्रानरेबिल मेश्वर को ले जा कर दिखा दूंगा।

श्री एम. राम गोपाल रेड्डी : अगर आप एक बड़े प्रोजेक्ट के ऊपर छोटा प्रोजेक्ट बना देंगे सिल्ट रोकने के लिये तो अच्छा रहेगा जैसा कि आन्ध्र प्रदेश में हो रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: यह तो माननीय रेड्डी जी अफारेस्टेशन से ही बात बनेगी।

Even the Himalayas are melting down. We have to take care of it. Not this slope alone but the Himalayas themselves.

Home Delivery System by Delhi Milk Scheme

*109. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme has introduced home delivery system for milk at the expense of thousands of poor people waiting and watching in long queues at the booths; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

I seek your protection, for the perfunctory type of answer that the Ministry is giving. The answer to my question is "No, Sir; Does not arise."

My question is:

(a) is it a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme has introduced home delivery system for milk at the expense of thousands of poor customers....

For this, his answer is, "No, Sir". Does the "No, Sir" deal with "home delivery system" as well as "poor customers"? The fact remains that the Delhi Milk Scheme has introduced a modified home delivery system only sometime back. So, "No, Sir" is not correct.

Secondly, if he is under the impression that the poor customers are not being deprived by this system, then he should have given me some figures to convince me that the home delivery system is not at the cost of these poor customers. I had myself seen during the Budget Session in the last summer, long queues standing at the booths and people going back without getting milk. So, I would like to know whether this "No, Sir" does also apply to modified home delivery system or at the expense of poor people only?

MR. SPEAKER: I would like the hon. Minister to convince the hon. Member.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: I may tell the hon. Member, it is true that home delivery system is there but that system is only in such areas where consumers are not supplied milk from depots. Where consumers are supplied milk from depots there is no home delivery system. Therefore, the question that the home delivery system has been introduced at the expense of people standing in long queues does not arise. That is why I said, No, Sir; and does not arise.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: That should have been said earlier, that the home delivery system is only at those places where there are no milk booths.