

Shri Tyagi: So, may we take it that you are holding over your ruling?

Mr. Speaker: I am agreeing with the hon. Member.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.
MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER—
contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Out of the 9 hours allotted for the Demands of this Ministry, about 5 hours have already been availed of and 4 hours remain. Now, it is 5 minutes to 1. Let me take it as one o'clock. The debate will close by 5 o'clock today. The list of cut motions relating to these Demands have already been circulated to the Members on 31st July, 1957. I shall call upon the Minister for Irrigation and Power to reply to the debate at 4 o'clock, after which the cut motions will be disposed of and the Demands put to vote.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur may continue his speech.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): Sir, I gave notice of cut motion No. 697. I sent a chit; but, probably, the chit that was sent by my party did not contain that number. I do not find it in the list of selected cut motions. I would like it to be included.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow it. Cut motion No. 697 may also be moved.

Sale of electric energy by D. V. C. to calculate E.S.C.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced to Re. 1."

Mr. Speaker: This cut motion is also before the House.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had quoted figures from the Five Year Plan's reviewed to show how deplorable the progress both in the field of irrigation and power in Rajasthan was. We had very low targets and the fact is that even those low targets have not been fulfilled. In respect of irrigation, the shortfall is 55 per cent. And the situation would have been still worse had it not been for the fact that a project called the Jawai had been taken up about 4 years before the first Five Year Plan was conceived or born. The shortfall is staggering in the case of power projects also; it is about 62 per cent. And, again, this shortfall does not take into account the fact that one of the turbines has already burst killing a labourer; it does not take into account the make-shift arrangement made by rushing a second turbine from Panipat to cater to the needs of Jodhpur.

This very clearly discloses how the progress of development in the State has been betrayed. I have invited particular attention of the Minister to these facts not because I am anxious to make any complaints or ask for any explanation. But the fact remains that during the Second Five Year Plan we are likely to be faced with many difficulties, particularly, difficulties regarding foreign exchange. Until and unless the hon. Minister pays special attention to the problems of the State, the progress is likely to be locked. My reason for bringing all these facts to the notice of the Minister is to ask for his sympathy and to seek his assistance in giving top priority to the demands of Rajasthan, particularly in view of the betrayal of the progress of the State during the years so far.

I shall not refer to the Bhakra Nangal project. The story is said. I shall not refer to Chambal which is being looked after by the Deputy Minister for Irrigation. But, I think he will take us into confidence, for

I have it from the horse's mouth, and my information is that though the progress is fairly satisfactory on the Madhya Bharat side, it is not so on the Rajasthan side. Whatever the reasons are, the fact is obviously there that the progress on the Rajasthan side of the Chambal Project also is not satisfactory. I do not wish to be told that this lack of progress is due to any difficulties regarding personnel. I will be able to convince the hon Minister at any time that we had the required personnel. There is no reason to believe that Rajasthan has not got the personnel as Madhya Bharat have. We had the personnel and if anybody comes up with the excuse, I may submit with confidence that he is living only in ignorance and that he will be adding insult to injury. The personnel is there. The need now is to go into those matters which have been responsible for the staggering shortfall, to streamline the agencies, to adopt effective measures and to see that the time which we have lost is made up and the progress in the next Five Year Plan is assured because it is only natural that the entire progress of the State is based on the progress of the projects for power. Unless this is done no developmental schemes of any type can be taken up.

13 hrs

I will just give the House an example. We have set up an ideal industrial colony in Jodhpur, but that colony is today lying desolate and deserted for no other reason but that we have not got power for connections to be given. The result, therefore, is natural. To avoid this state of affairs I hope necessary and adequate measures will be taken to ensure the progress of the State during the course of the second Five Year Plan.

Now, one suggestion which I have to make for the consideration of the hon Minister is this. We are putting up a steam plant in Jodhpur. I would request him to consider linking up this Jodhpur power house with the Chambal network. So far as I have been able to ascertain from

the engineers, I find this scheme is feasible. If this is done it will serve a large number of towns and villages, a very productive area, an area which is otherwise likely to be ignored. I would further request him to consider putting up another power plant at Sumerpur or somewhere near Jawa which ever is feasible. Originally in our scheme we had a power plant at Jawa; but it was discovered that a hydel power plant would not be possible. He may have to put up the steam plant, but I wish to emphasise the need and urgency of this power plant there. If we put up a 3,000 to 5,000 kw set there and if we link it with Palit and Jodhpur, we will have a first class industrial and agricultural grid running over an area of about one hundred to one hundred and twenty five miles. This would be an almost ideal place. You can develop this place. It is not going to cost us very much; the cost is very little. The feasibility of the scheme is undoubted and it is something which does not involve much of foreign exchange. If you can do this, the whole area will be humming with business and industry, it will be an ideal place for the development of rural and cottage industries.

I have only one more point to refer in respect of Rajasthan and that is about the Rajasthan Canal. Sir, Rajasthan Canal is the dream of our dreams. I think Rajasthan Canal is going to be the largest canal not only in this country, but it is perhaps one of the largest, if not the largest, in the world. We have by certain events changed history, but by Rajasthan Canal you are going to change the geography of the country. Our friends will be staggered to know that by means of this Canal we are thinking of navigation in the Rajasthan desert. The very idea is inspiring, but this project has been left over for a long time. I would like to be sure that all efforts are made that this project is given top priority. This project is not merely a project for Rajasthan, it is a project which does not serve Rajasthan alone.

[Shri H. C. Mathur]

it is certainly a project of all India importance. This is a project which is going to solve many of our difficulties; this is a project which definitely is going to solve to a very great extent our food problem in the country.

May I know what steps are being taken, what organisation is being set up? I hope we will not have the same sad experience as we had in the past. Let us grow wiser by the experience of the past and let us set up an organisation which will ensure great success of this project. I hope this will not be retarded by this blessed question of canal water dispute with Pakistan. I wish to be assured about it. This canal water dispute with Pakistan is on our nerves and this project has something I believe to do with that dispute. But I think our mind should be very clear on these matters. We cannot go on placating Pakistan all the time. I think we have gone more than out of our way to be generous, to be more than fair to that State, but we should not permit Pakistan to sabotage the progress and development of our country. I hope the hon. Minister would be in a position to give us an assurance that the progress of this project will not be retarded by any extraneous considerations.

Again, when I look into the Second Five Year Plan, though I find reference to this majestic project, I see nothing being done to develop the transport facilities alongside the Rajasthan Canal. You cannot conceive of any project without transport facilities. I do not know if even a survey has been made of that area for a rail road; I do not know whether you are thinking of a highway; I do not know whether you are thinking about construction of various roads to inter-link it. I hope the hon. Minister will be able to throw some light and give some satisfaction.

As I said in the beginning, I would now touch upon certain important points of policy. The first sugges-

tion which I respectfully wish to make is that we should have a uniform rate for power throughout the country. I think the mind of this Government is already working in that direction, because I get indications of it in their policy and many other spheres. We have the same rate for cement, we have the same rate for steel, whether it is imported steel or not. The imported steel at the port of Calcutta costs only as much as it does in Delhi. Government has taken into consideration all these matters because they want the even development of the country. I made out this point when the Second Five Year Plan was discussed, when the hon. Minister for Planning invited certain Members to discuss this Plan before he was to take it to Parliament. The hon. Minister conceded the point in principle. I should like to know what steps are being taken to give shape to that idea and what steps are being taken to implement that scheme. There may be certain difficulties raised, certain administrative difficulties, in this matter. The bogey of the autonomy of States might be brought in, but I do not think this is inconsistent with the autonomy of the States in any respect, in any manner. There can be adjustments made very conveniently and easily. In the first instance, I would urge upon the Minister to see that there are uniform rates. The rate of electricity for power and domestic consumption is entirely different in Jaipur from what it is in Udaipur. Yet another rate prevails in Jodhpur. The consumer pays eight annas or six annas or some other amount. This chaotic state of affairs should not be permitted to continue.

While making a reference to it, I would ask the hon. Minister to eliminate the distributing agencies. In the context of our present thinking and the policies and programmes which we have accepted. I do not know why they are allowed huge profits. I would ask him if he has

examined the balance sheets and the actual working of these distributing agencies. If the older lines cannot be taken over immediately, for God's sake do not introduce the new intermediaries and allow them huge profits.

It is really very distressing to find that even in the present context of things when we are most anxious about our food supplies, tubewells already dug and which could be commissioned are lying idle because power connection could not be given in spite of the fact that power is available. I cannot conceive of such a state of affairs. I have gone through the entire bulky volume which you have put in our hands the day before giving a review of the First Plan. I did not find any reference to rural electrification anywhere there. Just a casual reference is made at one place and that too not to rural electrification. A particular scheme has been worked out and a sum of Rs 20 crores was allotted out of which hardly Rs 8 crores had been spent. I do not consider this scheme to be a scheme for rural electrification in the true sense of the word.

We must give electric connection to the rural areas for lifting water and for the development of cottage and small-scale industries. You cannot stop the influx of the population from the rural areas to the cities unless you make the rural area worth living where we should find ways of means for him to earn something to supplement his income. That is only possible if small-scale and cottage industries are developed in the rural areas. Instead of Delhi being the centre and the capital of small-scale industries, it should be dispersed all over the rural areas. Then, the cottage and small-scale industries can succeed. They should be worked, not on sentimental grounds, but on commercially sound principles. They can be so if they are made ancillary to big industries. That will take away one of the

major difficulties which hampers all the time the progress of these industries—marketing difficulty. If these industries are ancillary to certain big industries, then the small industries can be developed in the rural areas. Only then you will be able to attract the educated young to the rural areas. It is no use exhorting them to go to the rural areas if you do not create good conditions there. These conditions lie mostly in the hands of the Minister of Power and Irrigation and I hope he will very seriously and sincerely go into this question of rural electrification. I wish him to earmark a particular amount for this purpose. I am not asking that because eighty per cent. of the people live in rural areas, eighty per cent of the power should go there. But, I certainly say that at least 25 per cent or a fixed quantity should go to the rural areas.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must conclude now. I have allowed him more than 20 minutes. They must have an eye on the clock also.

Shri H. C. Mathur. I shall conclude in two minutes. For want of time I am not going into many other matters, I would refer very briefly to two matters.

The Deputy Minister, in his speech last evening, referred to the All India Service. I was not very much satisfied with what he said. I have been taking up this matter on every occasion when I had found an opportunity to speak. More than two years back, the hon. Minister for Planning, while discussing certain subjects on the floor of the other House, assured us that he will take effective steps. It is no use blaming the States. You have not made a correct approach in the matter nor have you given them any lead. May I know what you have done to constitute at least one consolidated Central Service? There are various departments, each department a kingdom in itself. You have not been able to effect a co-ordination and have a central pool. If you give any lead to

[Shri H. C. Mathur]

the States, at least the Central Services are co-ordinated and pooled together, half the problem will be solved.

Then, these major river valley projects should be implemented speedily. There are certain bottlenecks. I would request the hon. Minister to examine what these bottlenecks are. I have no time; otherwise I would have detailed them. Delays add considerably to the cost. The Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission mentioned only the other day that if we had efficiency and integrity in the implementation of our major projects, 25 per cent of the cost will be cut down. That would be a colossal amount. This comes from an experienced administrator who is associated with planning ever since its inception. I hope proper attention will be given to this matter. We do not feel happy when we are told that these major projects are centres of corruption. Delays add to that and I hope proper attention will be given to these suggestions.

Shri Rameshwar Rao: (Mahbubnagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, irrigation is not a very absorbing subject but a very important subject, especially in a country like India, where conditions necessitate large-scale irrigation. The only factor which would contribute to increased production in this country is irrigation. India being in the tropics, there is heavy evaporation and what is worse, there is uneven rainfall and unless water can be given to fields regularly, we cannot increase food production. It has been estimated that food production can be trebled in this country with irrigation. All other aids like improved seeds, fertilisers, contour bunding or consolidation of holdings are but secondary in importance as compared to irrigation. Our population is increasing at the phenomenal rate of four million a year, and unless we can otherwise devise methods of controlling our increasing population, we can survive only if we can produce at least a million tons of extra food every year.

Under the circumstances, Sir, you will agree with me that every other activity has to be considered subordinate to the task of increasing food production. The only saving grace, however, appears to be that experts in this country have opined that we have the potential for increasing irrigation and hence increasing food production even if population goes on increasing at the present rate for decades to come.

At the moment we produce about 65 million tons of food grains every year, while the Planning Commission has estimated that our requirements by 1967 would be 87 million tons of food grains. This would mean that in the next ten years we would have to increase our food production by at least two million tons a year. All this only proves and confirms the great urgency and importance of irrigation in the Indian context.

There are two facts to this problem; firstly, the long-term plan and, secondly, the immediate objective. The Planning Commission envisaged that by 1967 we should have an additional 33 million acres under irrigation. The targets of the First Five-Year Plan were 8.5 million acres of which water was apparently made available to 6.5 million acres while only four million acres came under the plough. It is also claimed that minor irrigation extended facilities to ten million acres. But, surely, if this claim is true, and if 14 million acres have in the last five years come under the plough, then, how is it that we face a food crisis in this country? Either the irrigation figures are wrong or the food production figures are wrong; I only hope that both are not wrong.

I believe, at the moment irrigation is handled by two and half ministries. I say two and a half ministries because, the Ministry for Food and Agriculture handles minor irrigations, the Ministry for Irrigation and Power handles major irrigation works and medium irrigation works and, I am

told, the Ministry of Community Development is also tinkering with irrigation.

Surely, an important subject like irrigation should be handled better. Unless there is unified direction, planning and control, justice cannot be done to irrigation. It is not important which Ministry handles irrigation, but all the three aspects of irrigation—major, medium and minor irrigation—must be handled by one Ministry and responsibility must be shouldered by one department. Divided responsibility, Sir, you will agree, is the very negation of responsibility.

In the scheme of irrigation one has to remember that in India one-sixth of the country has assured rainfall and the other five-sixth needs looking after. There have been in the last two days many comments that completed irrigation projects have not been fully utilised. Not only have there been comments in this House, but the Planning Commission's review of the First Five Year Plan, page 144 says:

"In some cases it has happened that owing to defective phasing of works, water has been stored at considerable cost which can irrigate large areas but canal and distribution systems—needed for conveying the water to the fields were not ready in time. There were also projects in which the timetable prepared by States for spreading the available irrigation facilities has not been rapid enough. There are, thus, important lessons to be learnt from the experience of the past few years."

Further, the report goes on to say:

"...phasing of irrigation and power projects and their execution should be carefully arranged to yield maximum returns from investment at each stage."

I would like to add that it is not merely defective phasing that has contributed to this non-utilisation of water accumulated at great cost. Ap-

parently, the Planning Commission, the planners themselves overlooked the fact that the placing and location of these irrigation projects is important if their utility has to be fulfilled. Projects like D. V. C., Hirakud and Mayuraxi are located in areas of assured rainfall. Obviously, if an area has an assured rainfall of 50 inches a year, surely the peasant is not going to take water from our irrigation schemes. Our planning should be such that our irrigation projects are located in areas of scanty rainfall where the peasant needs them.

On the other hand, there is Tungabhadra, which is the other extreme. Tungabhadra project is also located in the worst famine-stricken area of India with a sparse population of only 120 people per square mile—while a proper irrigation area requires a population of about 350 persons per square mile—and with land which was never been tilled in the last 50, 60 or even 100 years. Naturally, the development process will take time.

In view of the importance of irrigation to India, what is needed is a sure assessment of projects and priorities. In my view, therefore, an Irrigation Commission consisting not only of experts but also of Members of this hon. House should be appointed. It was in 1902 that an Irrigation Commission was appointed in this country and did some useful work. For some reason a similar Commission has not been considered necessary as yet. In my view the Commission appointed, as explained earlier, should be charged to travel round India, examine all proposed projects and report on priorities in a year or 18 months. The Irrigation Commission should formulate plans not only for the immediate future but also to cover the next 150 years, as the least service which we can render to generations yet unborn in this country is to leave them fully surveyed and planned projects for them to be undertaken whenever necessary.

This would also help our own phased development of agriculture and irrigation, otherwise our irrigation will

[Shri Rameshwar Rao]

grow in a haphazard manner resulting in our taking up less useful projects at the expense of more useful and beneficial ones. This has not only happened in the past but, if I may submit, is happening today. I should like to give one example to the hon. Minister for Irrigation and Power 120 miles from Hyderabad in Telanga, on the Godavari—Godavari of which only 6 per cent of the water is used for irrigation and 94 per cent spills into the Bay of Bengal—there is a beautiful site at Pochampad, a paradise for engineers, if I may call it so, a site for a wonderful irrigation project. Surveys and investigations were begun 20 years ago—by the late Sir Ali Nawaz Jung one of the greatest engineers this country has produced. Investigations have almost been completed and even the channel alignments have been fixed. However, this project needs a few lakhs of rupees and a little interest to complete investigations before it can be taken up and built. The Andhra Government has no money to complete the job. It is indeed a tragedy that such a project the best of its kind in South India is neglected, while more expensive projects are being not only investigated but built. Surely, there is some mistake somewhere. The Pochampad Dam would be a low dam of about 90 feet and could be built without cement or steel and without any foreign exchange. It can be built only with surkhi mortar and stone. It will irrigate over 20 lakh acres of land. It is the cheapest projects of its kind in India. It will not cost more than Rs 40 crores or Rs 50 crores. The dam itself costs Rs 10 crores and the channels are supposed to cost Rs 40 crores, and it can be built in stages. It will produce the much wanted rice, rice which we cannot buy even outside India for love or for money. Leaving such cheap, lovely and abundant projects we tinker with insoluble problems.

I am not speaking of Pochampad from a regional angle at all. It is

India that suffers the agony of hunger and want, and it is our duty to take up projects which yield quick and bountiful results. Pochampad is but one example. There may be others. The Irrigation Commission may discover newer projects of greater benefit which we may be able to take up even during the second Five Year Plan, to the exclusion of other projects which could be delayed.

I have so far drawn the attention of the hon. Minister to long term projects. Before I go on, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that I have not spoken of Pochampad from my own imagination. I would like to refer him to Volume III No 10 of *Bhagrath*—March 1957, in which there is an article on the potentialities of the Godavari in which there are a few lines about Pochampad.

'A few miles inside the western part of Andhra Pradesh, there is an excellent site at Pochampad where if a dam of 120 ft height is constructed the waters could be diverted to irrigate nearly 16 lakh acres in the northern portion of the river which are at present in great need of water.'

It goes on to say

Below Pochampad it is only at Inchanpalle that the Indravathi feeds the Godavari with most of its waters. There is an excellent site with bedrock exposed. At this place if a dam of 130 ft height is constructed, it would store 16 million acre ft of water, which would be by far the largest storage reservoir of the country and the second largest in the world."

Mr. Speaker: What will be the length of the dam?

Shri Rameshwar Rao: I am afraid it has not been given in this report. But I can say it is not very long. It is a very convenient site and it is one of the most beautiful sites. As I said, it is the engineers' paradise.

I have spoken at length on the long term plans of irrigation. I would now

draw the hon. Minister's attention to the immediate objective of increased food production. The hon. Minister knows as well as I do, that in South India especially there are hundreds of thousands of small tanks which are breached. For some reason, they are under the Food and Agriculture departments, and so are under divided responsibility. The divided responsibility does not take them anywhere. If only the small tanks could be restored, it would be good. All they want is earth, labour and stone. No cement, no steel, no foreign exchange. If only these tanks are restored, and these can be done in 18 months or two years—it would lead to increase food production. Tens of lakhs of acres would come under irrigation, but the States do not have the funds to tackle the job. Surely, the Central Government should, as an emergency measure, make grants to the State Governments for the specific purpose of restoring these breached small tanks. Irrigation would be facilitated only if all irrigation works are handled by a single authority. I hope the hon. Minister will give some consideration to my submission. While supporting his demands for grants, I do request him to try and reallocate the funds in the direction in which I have indicated.

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I now call upon Shri K S Ramaswamy. I will then call upon Shri T K Chaudhuri. Then, Shri Punnoose. Dr K B Menon will then be called.

Shri Sanganna (Koraput—Reserved—Sch Tribes): May we know the list of speakers from Orissa?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Supakar has been called. I will draw from all sides. Let us see.

Shri R. S. Lal (Domariaganj): What about U.P.?

Mr. Speaker: Seth Achal Singh has spoken.

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal): May we know the list of speakers to be called?

Mr. Speaker: I am prepared to allow one more Member from U.P. In matters relating to food, agriculture, health and education, irrigation, etc.,—largely these are not political matters—and therefore, I would like to give opportunities to every State. U.P. is a big State and I would like to call one more Member representing U.P. But nobody tells me, and there is no arrangement, whereby the representatives are placed before me to speak. I cannot call all the Members of U.P. or of any particular State. Nobody assists me. So, I am not able to know who is able to speak on behalf of any particular State. So, whoever appears before me, I shall call upon him.

Shri M. C. Jain: From Punjab, only one Member spoke.

Mr. Speaker: Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava spoke.

Shri M. C. Jain: Yes, I am only saying that apart from Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, no other Member from Punjab spoke.

Mr. Speaker: Punjab, from a deficit State, has now become rich. With Bhakra Nangal, it is now at the top of the skies. It is now a pucca surplus State.

Shrimati Laxmi Bai (Vicarabad) rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member had a chance. There are other maiden speakers.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मीबाई: इस पर प्रभा तक कोई औरत नहीं बोली है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: सारे हिन्दुस्तान पर सब लोग नहीं बोल सकते हैं।

Shri K. S. Ramaswamy (Gobichettipalayam): I am thankful to the Speaker for having given me a chance to take part in this debate. Let me, at the outset, pay my tribute to the Minister of Irrigation and Power for the great achievements that have

[SHRI K S RAMASWAMY]

been shown in the first Five Year Plan in the last few years. By these efforts, famine in this country has become a thing of the past. Millions of acres of land have been brought under cultivation. About 14 million acres of land were brought under cultivation, during the first Plan period—and it has been estimated—that 20 million more acres would be irrigated in the next four or five years. We will certainly tide over the food crisis, and we will become a surplus country very soon because of these irrigation facilities

When I speak about this, I have to refer to my State. In the Madras State we have utilised all the waters available in the small and big rivers, and we may not be able to have any more dams or big river valley projects unless other neighbouring States come to our rescue. The Andhra State is going to share its waters with our Krishna-Pennar project which has been investigated, and I hope that that scheme will be taken up for implementation very soon. But that will serve only Madras, Chingleput and South Arcot. Still further in the south, Tinnevely, Coimbatore and Madura, and also Ramnad, there are vast tracts of land which are very dry and there is no hope of irrigation facilities there, in Tamil Nad. But in the Kerala State, big rivers are going waste to the sea, and those waters can be utilised for the Madras State. The Parambikulam project which was investigated sometime back still remains to be implemented, and the other State is not co-operating with us. If the Parambikulam scheme is taken up, about two lakhs of acres in Coimbatore and Ramnad will be irrigated and about 21,000 acres in Kerala State will also be irrigated. We want only a share of their waters. They can utilise all the waters they need, but they may give only the excess water that goes waste into the sea. That will do

There is one Giriyar, whose water is not utilised by Kerala. That will irrigate about two taluks in the Tinnevelly district, that is, Sankaranainarkoil and Koulpatti.

Pambar and Upper Periyar can also be taken up. It will also irrigate lakhs of acres in Ramnad. We want Kerala State to be sympathetic towards us. We have also a good cause to share that water with them. Recently the food zonal council was formed and the Kerala State wanted to be with us, because it is a deficit State. We are also deficit, but even then we are prepared to share our food with them. If they give us water, if they agree to the irrigation zone also, then we will produce more food, and all of us together by our joint enterprise can solve this food problem and also generate electricity, which will be useful to both of us. The present Kerala Ministry believe in international theory and I hope they will not be carried away by parochialism and 'Stateism'.

If the States do not agree among themselves, I request the Centre to intervene and take up the ownership of the rivers. The national resources of the country should not be wasted. It should not be left to the whims and fancies of the States. It should be fully utilised by the Indian Union. I hope the Minister for Irrigation and Power will intervene and see to it that this water is utilised for the benefit of both the States. Luckily for us, we have got this Lower Bhavani dam, which irrigates 2,10,000 acres.

There are some difficulties I would like to mention one difficulty and I hope it will be looked into. The irrigation authorities are pursuing a policy which is detrimental to food production. Among the irrigated areas of Lower Bhavani ayacut, there are thousands of acres which are fed by lift-well scheme. People were using lift-wells and they were already raising food crops and commercial crops. Now these people are

prevented from installing pumps and they are not allowed to lift water by mechanical methods. It is said that by these methods they take out the percolated water. The lands in the Lower Bhavani ayacut area are not fed with enough water. I think it is better to be unfed than half-fed. If these people are allowed, they would have installed diesel engines and would have lifted water; they would have certainly contributed to the grow more food scheme. I hope the policy of the irrigation authorities will be revised and people will be allowed to use these mechanical devices

The Ministry should formulate a policy with the co-operation of other Ministries like the Commerce and Industry Ministry to start more industrial undertakings in the project areas. In the Lower Bhavani project, they have invested lakhs of rupees in forming a township and it is lying waste. They could have utilised the raw materials available there and started some industries. The man-power utilised for the dam could also be utilised for the industries. They can be settled there; that will greatly relieve congestion in the towns and to a great extent relieve unemployment also. Big tenements are lying waste and they must be utilised to the fullest advantage.

I entirely agree with my friend's view regarding the minor irrigation works. Minor and major irrigation should be in the hands of the same Ministry and should be conducted in a co-ordinated way. I have no complaint to make against the Ministry now dealing with minor irrigation works. I will give one instance of co-ordinated work. In my constituency in Bhavani taluk, there is a chain of tanks—about 6 or 7 tanks. They are depleted. The bunds are breached and there is no water in them. They are lying just near the Mettur dam. If only a canal of a few miles is constructed and water is let into these tanks at the time of the mon-

soon, they will irrigate thousands of acres and you need not levy betterment levy, etc. and upset the cultivators. This will greatly relieve those people.

As there are no big rivers to be tapped by us, at least the minor irrigation works can be taken up and the tanks can be renovated. I am proud to tell you that the farmers in Coimbatore and Salem districts are the hardest working people in the world. Whether there is tank or not, whether there is dam or not, they will dig the land to a depth of 80 to 100 feet and find water, because they believe in the philosophy of Thiruvalluvar: "*Uzhudhundu vazhvare vazhvar*". They are not going to keep quiet, but I only request the irrigation department to give them all the facilities. They cannot be working hard for ever; some relief should be given to them.

There are thousands of tanks in Salem district. But in a major part of the place, there are no irrigation facilities. If the Krishnagiri project is completed, that will help them. In Ramnad and Tinnevely districts, tube-wells can be constructed. In the past, Madras State has been neglected in the construction of tube-wells and I think some money will be spent for the construction of tube-wells in this region.

I was happy to hear yesterday from our Minister that the Cauvery and Tambraparni rivers were being considered for navigation purposes. Cauvery will greatly relieve the congestion on the railways due to the shortage of wagons. Tanjore people are not able to export their foodgrains to other places. This will greatly relieve them. I hope and believe that this will be expedited.

I want to submit one more point about electricity. One of the biggest schemes that have been started in Madras is the Kundah project. It was stated sometime ago that it might be postponed due to want of materials or foreign exchange. Luckily

[Shri K S Ramaswamy]

for us, the Canadian Government is helping us under the Colombo Plan. I only request the hon Minister to expedite the matter and finish the work in schedule time so that we can at least get electricity soon if not water.

I wholeheartedly support these demands

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): Mr Speaker, if I have decided to take part in this debate at the earliest opportunity that was available to me, that is because I feel that the Ministry of Irrigation and Power holds the key to the life and destiny of the Godforsaken State from which I come, I mean the State of West Bengal

Due to centuries of neglect under the British colonial rule, we have a State where we have floods side by side with choking and silting up of rivers. We have the problem of arid areas and draught affected areas going without any irrigation. All problems that one can conceive of in connection with irrigation, flood control and river drainage and erosion are to be found in plenty in that State

Before I go to detail out some of the urgent problems that confront our State, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the hon Minister to the problem of flood control. Last year, in a radio speech, the economic significance of the problem created by floods was underlined by one of our top engineers, if I may be permitted to refer to his name, Shri Kunwar Sam. He said,— and I think there would be no authoritative expert who would dispute that statement — if we can prevent the damage that takes place through floods every year, we can raise the national income of India by Rs 100 crores, which means, if we could have prevented the damage created by the floods, we could have one million-ton producing steel mill every

year in this country. There are other aspects also; the loss that we incur by way of provision for flood relief and other things. I do not want to go into that aspect of the matter. The problem is very simple. A very large tract of our country in certain specified regions are, every year, subject to this havoc of floods, particularly, the North-eastern region of our country Assam, Bihar, Eastern U.P., and last but not least, the State of West Bengal. In the year 1955, the total flood affected area was of the tune of 36,000 square miles

13 55 hrs

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

As the House well knows, before 1954, flood control problem was regarded as a part of the general problem involved in the formulation of our policy with regard to multi-purpose river valley projects. Flood control as such was not taken up separately or distinctly. After the 1954 floods, we started to have what might be called an integrated flood control policy.

But, one thing has intrigued me most. What are we going to do about this policy? I am afraid that this problem of floods which we have taken up, apparently, very seriously, has given rise to a spate of Committees, Commissions, etc. I was just trying to find out how many bodies there are to deal with these problems. In the Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget, there is a concise statement about the flood control bodies of our Government. First, there is the Central Flood Control Board. Then, in ten States, we have ten Flood Control Boards at State level. Then, we have four River Commissions which deal with floods. Then, there is the flood wing of the Central Water and Power Commission which assists the Central Flood Control Board and also four investigation Circles of the flood wing and which is supposed to supply design and other things and exam-

mine the schemes submitted by the State Governments. The Central Water and Power Commission has a Flood wing. The Flood wing has again four investigation wings. I am afraid this multiplicity of bodies most probably leads to a duplication of efforts, duplication of plans and the same ground being gone over by different bodies. Things which ought to have been tackled on a war basis are unnecessarily delayed.

So far as the flood control policy and the allocations for the same are concerned, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the original Ministry of Irrigation and Power submitted plans for the First Plan period and they had included schemes involving an expenditure of Rs. 174.37 crores. For the Second Plan period it was Rs. 117.15 crores. But, actually, in the Plan itself, schemes costing Rs. 60 crores were sanctioned. I would urge upon the House and upon the Government to look into the matter and see if they cannot increase the allocation at least by Rs. 25 crores more. Why I say this is because, as in the First Plan period, in the Second Five Year Plan period also, we intend to go through two stages of our three tier programme. We take emergency, immediate measures and also intermediate measures. It has been found by actual experience that wherever we have undertaken some kind of emergent measures or intermediate measures, large tract, a considerable tract, has been saved from the havoc of floods. So, that aspect of the matter, that is, larger allocations for flood control, for intermediate type of schemes and emergent schemes should be immediately taken up.

14 hrs.

Then I come to certain problems of my State. The House is not perhaps aware that the State of West Bengal suffered the worst floods in its history in 1956. Unfortunately that flood occurred after hon. Shri Nanda made

his statement on 3rd September. It began on the night of September 25-26.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Had the flood any connection with the statement?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: No, not with the statement, but the peculiar features of the flood could not be taken into account while that statement was made. I want to level a definite charge against this Government that they have simply ignored the occurrence of this flood and have refused to take into account the problems which were presented by the occurrence of this flood.

I have here one of the anniversary numbers of the *Bhagirathi*; published only in the month of June. There is an article by a gentleman from the C.W.P.C. in it where he evidently refers to these 1956 floods. It passes my comprehension how an officer of the C.W.P.C. can make a statement like this about that flood. He does not even know what was the principal river due to the overflow of which the flood took place. He jumbles up certain rivers he has heard of. There is mention of the Bhagirathi, the Ajay and the Dwaraka, but he does not remember, he does not know perhaps, that there is a river, a turbulent river which has been sought to be trained by a multi-purpose project, the Mayurakshi. We have spent nearly Rs. 16 crores on that project, and we suspect that there was something wrong somewhere in the administration of the Mayurakshi project which created this flood.

I do not refer to the statements that were made in the State by the State Government, but it created such a havoc in an usually arid area that even the Prime Minister had to rush to our district. That was the first occasion in the history of the district of Murshidabad that the Prime Minister went there. Shri A. P. Jain went there. The hon. lady Member from Malda, who is not here, who was Minister of Refugee Rehabilitation in West Bengal then, had to rush there. All the Bengal Ministers had to rush there. At least 1,000 square miles were

[Shri T. K. Chaudhuri]

not only flooded and completely submerged. I would invite any Member, any official of the department of Irrigation and Power or the hon. Minister if he can find some time, to come there and see what havoc has been created and remains to be repaired even after eight to nine months. But unfortunately it has been sought to be asserted by the officials of the department that the working of the Mayurakshi Project had nothing to do with it, or even the Mayurakshi river had nothing to do with it. It was like all floods, a God-made flood. But the people of Bengal have an impression that it was a man-made flood and no proper enquiries have been held up till now.

An expert enquiry committee was appointed by the Government of West Bengal, but they carried on their enquiry in a hush-hush manner, and I have just come to know **informally** that some sort of report has been submitted. We do not know what it is.

And the strangest part of the thing is that now, five or six years after the project was started when this flood occurs, the Government and the officials of the Irrigation Ministry come out with a statement that it was not a flood-control project, that the Mayurakshi Reservoir Project was a multi-purpose project like all other multi-purpose river valley schemes and flood control was certainly one of its declared objectives. But these 1956 floods have shown, and particularly the unprecedented submersion, the submersion of that whole area, has shown that the scheme has failed in one of its primary objectives, namely control of floods.

I will now come to the Irrigation aspect a little later, within a few minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are only two left. I do not know when he would come to that.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I would certainly ask for a few minutes more, because the attention of the Government has not up till now been drawn

to some of these problems. I will just touch upon them and finish as early as I can.

After floods—I have to skip over other points,—I have to refer to the problem created by version. I think certainly it is also one of the problems which comes under the purview of the Ministry. I think it was in early 1955 that the previous Minister for Irrigation and Power, Shri Nanda, convened a conference of West Bengal M.Ps., and there I sought to raise this question of erosion. Literally before my very eyes in the course of the last ten years a populous municipal town of the name of Dulyan Ganga has been wiped out by erosion. I tried to raise that problem, but nothing could be done because the representatives of the State Government who were present said they did not think it was worth while saving it.

This problem does not affect simply the State Governments alone. The railways have been interrupted. The Bandel-Barharwa line of the Eastern Railways has been interrupted. If we refer the matter to the railways, they say they have nothing to do with it and ask us to go the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. If we go to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, they say they have nothing to do with it and ask us to go to the State Government. In that way people are kept running from pillar to post can be easily imagined and nothing has been done up till now. So, I would like the hon. Minister to take up that problem, to see if anything can be done.

Connected with that region, the Dulyan region, the region where the Hooghly branches off, the question of the Ganga barrage or the Farraka barrage comes up. I do not want to go into that question, but there are one or two things that must be said. It is now definite that the Second Plan does not include the Ganga Barrage scheme, but in spite of it, I do not know why the Government of West Bengal is being allowed to keep that thing up as a sort of myth, as a sort of hope dang-

ing before the eyes of the people that this is going to happen. I come from that district where the headquarters of the Ganga Barrage scheme of the West Bengal Government is situated. They have appointed a whole-time officer, the former director of the river research institute of West Bengal there for this purpose. But I do not know why this matter is being held up. Perhaps, there seems to be some inhibition in the mind of the Ministry and also of Government, because that involves the river Ganga. That is in a sense an international river, and an international waterway, and perhaps, it is felt that so long as the dispute with Pakistan over canal water is there in West Pakistan these matters should not be taken up. But here is a scheme which would go to help the Pakistan people. I can say on the basis of authoritative statements made by the representatives of the Pakistan Government that they would very much like to discuss this matter, because this Ganga Barrage scheme would take away the surplus water which floods Eastern Bengal.

I would like Government to make a definite statement on this matter, so that this can be immediately taken up with the Pakistan Government. Let us not mix it up with the West Pakistan canal water dispute. There, they may feel aggrieved, but here they will feel grateful. Moreover

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member says too many things then none of them might be looked into. So, the hon. Member must confine himself to a few points only.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I shall finish in three minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not possible. Already, the hon. Member has taken 22 minutes. There is no possibility of his getting three minutes.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I am just finishing. I would only request Government to examine whether, if the Ganga Barrage scheme cannot be accepted, something intermediate measure, such as dredging etc. could not be undertaken, so that the flow

in the river *Bhagirathi* can be increased, because the entire future of West Bengal, and I would say the resuscitation of the river valleys of West Bengal would depend upon that.

Lastly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That has already been said. Now I am calling upon Shri Dasappa.

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I join my hon. friends in supporting the Demands for Grants relating to this Ministry.

In the First Plan, the highest importance was given to irrigation and power. As much as 29 per cent of the entire Plan expenditure was earmarked for irrigation and power which is a sufficient indication of the great importance attached to the development of irrigation and power in the country.

It is true that in the years gone by, not much attention was paid to the development of irrigation much less to the development of power. But when we got freedom, and what is more when we were faced with the terrific problem of food shortage the highest priority naturally was given to these multipurpose projects and irrigation projects.

I agree with my hon. friend from Andhra Pradesh that unless both the categories of irrigation, namely the major ones as well as the minor ones, are vested in the same Ministry, it will be very difficult for us either to make a rapid headway or even to get at the correct situation. It is seen that under the First Plan, out of the additional acreage that came under irrigation because of the Plan, as much as ten million acres are due to minor irrigation schemes. I would like to ask the Minister as to where he got these data from, whether there were any accurate statistics maintained in the States with regard to these minor irrigation schemes, and whether this does not form part of a large acreage which is already under irrigation. We have no detailed information given on this point.

[Shri Dasappa]

With regard to the Second Plan, the figure is equally high, because it is proposed to bring under major irrigation 12 million acres and under minor irrigation another 9 million acres. What are the data for us? Are we simply to take whatever our hon. friends choose to place before us as the truth? Or has there been any scientific survey or investigation made into this question? I, therefore, plead that both major irrigation as well as minor irrigation must be under one and the same Ministry. Besides, since the Food and Agriculture Ministry has enough of occupation just now, it would not be correct on our part to place this additional burden of looking after minor irrigation on their shoulders.

I reinforce this particular argument by another statement which I believe, makes it even more compelling, namely that these big projects are all right, so far as they go, but they do not yield immediate results. It is admitted by the Ministry and also by the planners themselves that it takes a long time for these major projects to yield the best and the fullest results, whereas if we take to these minor irrigation schemes we get results immediately. I think that is a tangible advantage, because it is not as if we have got to wait very long, we get immediate results. Secondly, it also gives a psychological satisfaction to the people. What does it matter to the people in the thousands and thousands of our villages, if they are told that there are magnificent projects like the Bhakra-Nangal or the DVC and so on. These big projects mean nothing to them. They would mean something only when they bear results before their eyes. But in the case of the minor irrigation schemes, they would give immediate results, which will satisfy the people, and will also develop a fine psychology in them for co-operation.

For these various reasons, I plead that this matter must be brought within the purview of the Irrigation and Power Ministry. Furthermore, in

order to satisfy the millions of people, the Ministry must make a dynamic attempt to see that these minor schemes are pushed through very vigorously. As regards dynamism, I do not think I should at all try to plead for that here, because the Honourable Minister is nothing, if he is not dynamic.

There is one other reason also. The planners themselves have said that there must be more co-ordination, because the minor schemes are complementary to the major ones. For all these reasons, I plead that minor irrigation also must come under this Ministry, and a great deal more of attention must be given to minor irrigation schemes.

Sir, I come from a State which is full of tanks. In old Mysore, over an area of 29,000 square miles, there are about 26,000 tanks which means at least one tank per square mile approximately. Of course the situation might be the same in some other parts also.

Out of these, as many as 18,000 to 19,000 are in disrepair.

Shri B. S. Murthy. Are they with or without water?

Shri Dasappa. About 18,000 are in disrepair.

If we just give a little money, I am sure all these tanks will bear fruit and we will be able to increase our irrigated area considerably.

Another point is that we have a large belt the Western Ghats, where we have copious rainfall. There is no need for us to build huge dams, construct reservoirs and all that. If only we try to help them with communication, we can open up a large tract of rain-fed irrigable area. We can also terrace these uplands and convert them into wet crop areas.

I would like to say a word or two with regard to DVC, which has evoked so much controversy. I have had occasion to visit it recently. I have a number of points which I

would like to deal with, but there is no time. The hon. Member from West Bengal was just now saying that West Bengal was a God-forsaken State. I have here literature which gives a totally different picture of West Bengal. This is a report on the Damodar Valley Corporation, a very authentic one, prepared by one of the members, Shri Ganguly. I am not referring to the particular district of the hon. Member. It is quite likely that his district may be bad. But I am referring to the area which now comes under the Damodar Valley Project.

It is admitted that it can irrigate now more than 10 lakh acres below the Durgapur Barrage, and yet nothing of the area has so far been brought under the plough, nothing done so far as utilisation of the Damodar waters is concerned.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: That was why I said that there was something wrong somewhere. Even when we have spent Rs 86 crores over the DVC, with the exception of power, so far as flood control and irrigation are concerned, we have got no help.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I suppose there is no dispute between the two hon. Members. He only said that it was God-forsaken, not Planning Commission-forsaken.

Shri Dasappa: I have here an authority which I would like to place before the House.

"No less an authority than Sir William Wilcocks emphasised that the Lower Damodar area has one of the richest soils in the world. In a series of lectures delivered at Calcutta University some 25 years ago, he reminded us of the 'days when travellers considered Central Bengal as rich as Egypt and the Burdwan as claiming first rank in productive agricultural value in the whole of India'."

What is it that prevents the farmer from making use of the water which is flowing right over his land?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: That was what I wanted Government to take note of. What is it that prevents the farmer from taking advantage of the irrigation potential?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Now I suppose that has been taken note of.

Shri Dasappa: Let not the blame be laid at the doors of the Ministry which has chosen to spend crores of rupees, and has brought waters to the farmer's lands.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: But crores of rupees have gone down the sea.

Shri Dasappa: I am afraid he is off the track.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is this going to be settled by this method? The hon. Member may proceed.

Shri Funnose (Ambalapuzha): On a point of order. If I heard the hon. Member correctly, he said: 'I am afraid he is off his head'. May be that some of us may be so. But is it permissible to make such observations?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): He said 'off the track'.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri Funnose: That it is all right.

Shrimati Farvathi Krishnan (Coimbatore): Let him be distinct.

Shri Dasappa: I said 'off the track'.

It is no sin on the part of Government to build dams spending crores and crores of rupees and help us to fertilise the land. As has already been stated, there are people who are hungering for water ...

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Thirsting for water.

Shri Dasappa: The question is, why is it that there is this difficulty. I also know something about these major-irrigation projects, how people respond at the beginning and how after-

[Shri Dasappa]

wards they feel blessed that there has been a dam constructed for them

I know about the Krishnrajasagar dam which irrigates 1,20,000 acres 4,000 farmers marched to the Government Secretariat saying that they did not want to pay the contribution and so on. Afterwards, there was negotiation. The interest was left out, and they agreed to pay what is known as the betterment levy. But that was spread over a long number of years.

Now, I have got data here. In this area covering 10 lakh acres, not only can they grow paddy, not only can they take one crop, but they can easily raise two crops, they can cultivate jute in at least 1,00,000 acres. They can also grow vegetables and commercial crops.

So it is just a reaction in the beginning to the question of additional payment. I think, Sir, here the best wits of both the Central Government and the West Bengal Government must come to play and they must demonstrate to the poor farmers the advantage of utilising these waters.

This is what they have also said in connection with other irrigation projects. I must plead with the hon. Minister that they must have these demonstration farms.

I would now like to say a word or two on power. I judge the prosperity of a nation by the amount of power that is generated in the country and the amount of power that is utilised. Power leads to prosperity as nothing else does. The power potential in India is 35 million kw. We are just now reaching 3 million kw, and another 3 million kw under the Second Plan. So that you will see that we are far far from utilising all the facilities open to us to generate power.

I lay special emphasis on generation of power, particularly hydel power, for the obvious reason that hydel power is an inexhaustible source of power. All other sources, whether it may be coal or it may even be atomic

power, are exhaustible sources. But so far as hydel power is concerned, it is inexhaustible. It is what is known as current economy so far as hydel power is concerned, as against bucket economy so far as coal and oil are concerned. The latter soon get exhausted. I would say that there should be no stinting of money so far as power generation is concerned.

There are some hon. friends who remarked that there is not sufficient power given to their particular States. After all, we are now thinking largely of hydel power and if nature has bestowed certain facilities in certain areas, it is just as well that we take advantage of those natural gifts and generate power. The whole of the Western Ghats from Bombay down to Kanyakumari is an area full of potential power. In my own State, one project can generate 710,000 kw on a small expenditure of Rs. 57 crores. That works out cheapest so far as generation of electric power is concerned. I find here that they have taken up the first stage and they have set apart about Rs. 22 crores. With the allotment made, we may not be able to generate more than 1,40,000 kw. I would ask the hon. Minister why he has not stated there that the whole project would cost Rs. 57 crores and the ultimate generation of power will be of the order of 710,000 kw.

Shri Punnoose: What is the name of that project?

Shri Dasappa: Honnamarudi or Sheravati Valley scheme.

I would also plead for another very advantageous project. In doing so, I am not selfish for it helps our friendly neighbour, Kerala, more than our State of Mysore. That is the scheme to which my hon. friend Shri Shankaraiya referred. It is a multi-purpose project. It not only gives power to all these areas but it will also irrigate 30,000 acres of land.

Shri C. E. Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): Is one of the purposes of multi-

purpose projects to serve the communists?

Shri Dasappa: I may also say that in Mysore there is no difficulty about any material except for copper wire. We can get poles, we can fabricate all the structures but it is only the question of copper wire that causes trouble. I would request the hon. Minister to bring pressure on the concerned Ministry to see that whatever other imports are cut short, the imports of copper wire is not be cut short.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Sir, I thought, from the way people were called, that I had no chance; but it is a great surprise that I am also called.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Sometimes we get unexpected showers.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Especially when you were saying, 'Order, order', I thought I had incurred your displeasure, but it was the other way.

We are all proud of the engineers of India and the department of Power and Irrigation. We are finding magnificent and huge projects having reached completion and some are near completion and some more are under contemplation. All honour to the engineers who have with enthusiasm and devotion addressed themselves to the building of these temples of prosperity.

One particular matter about the economic way of constructing these projects was agitated upon during the previous 5 years. There were disputes even amongst experts as to whether these projects should be made of cement concrete. There were experts who felt that it can be of masonry and earth. They were saying that by resorting to too much of cement concrete business, we were allowing a lot of money to be drained out of India. They meant the huge earth-moving machines. They meant not only the cost of the machines but

also the cost of maintaining them with spare parts which was equally heavy. Naturally, the engineers who studied the economics of it felt worried that we were indulging too much in this cement concrete work.

During the first Five Year Plan, the problem did not attract the attention of Government sufficiently. Much freedom and lenience was given in the matter of allowing cement constructions to be indulged in or resorted to. Now that it is known that there is not only shortage of foreign exchange but even shortage of cement in the country, and we are depending also on imports, we feel that every step should be taken to minimise the utilisation of cement concrete in the construction of projects. I want to know what attention Government have paid to this and what decisions they have taken and what changes they are contemplating. I want a categorical answer at this stage because there is such a big economic drive. We should first know how we have devised our construction plans in this respect. Though I would personally like to have a *post-mortem* on this subject, since *post-mortems* are not popular, I do not insist on it, but I insist that hereafter at least proper attention should be paid to this matter.

My friends from my own State, from Mysore and other States also have said—and as is published in the summary of the First Five Year Plan that has been released to us—the State of Madras has exhausted practically all its important water resources, their utilisation being more or less complete. Ninety to ninety-five per cent of the waters in Cauvery are being utilised. It is one of the wonders of the world that about 95 per cent of the waters of the river should be used for irrigation purposes and there is nothing more left; hardly any portion of it reaches the sea. Therefore, it has become very necessary for Government to do something about the water sources for the State of Madras.

[Shri C. R. Narasimhan]

As one of my friends from my State said, we must have a water zone for the South. Shri A. P. Jain found that there was some difficulty for food. He created a zone. My friend was saying the same thing. I do not mind repeating it here because the Minister was not here then. My friend was saying that we must have a water zone for the south and an electricity zone (Shri B. S. Murthy: For the north!) for the south. Electricity and water should be exploited for the benefit of the whole country. Water resources in various States should not be treated as parochial things, belonging to particular States; linguistic and other feelings should not come. If the Constitution stands in the way of development of these and other things, it should be so amended that we should all feel that the water resources of the country are one and the power resources of the country belong to one, the Indian Union.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Kakinda-Reserved-Sch. Castes): Is not claiming the waters of other States parochialism?

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: If we all believe that we are the people of India then it is all right. The mental change is necessary.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any doubt or dispute about it that we are all Indians?

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: I do not know in what context the interruption was made. But, I will give you an example.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must realise that his own valuable time is being lost.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: There was the case of the Parambikulam project. There was a dispute between Kerala and Madras about the utilisation of the waters; the location of the catchment area and such other things caused complication. Some felt that it belongs to one State, the water goes to the other State and then makes a curve and comes back to the

Madras State. We do not know who is to be considered the main owner of the water facilities in order to construct a project there. That is the difficulty. A lot of hurdles were felt and we are not able to start the project there. To obviate the difficulty of the Kerala State not giving full facilities, the Madras Government is thinking of having a costly tunnel and somehow or other getting over the Kerala obstruction. That means we will have to spend more. I say, we are not spending Kerala money or Madras money; we are spending India's money; so, cheaper methods should be resorted to. Costly constructions should be avoided. Either the Constitution must be changed if there is any difficulty on account of it, or the administration should have a different approach or the laws about river disputes should be employed so as to bring about an amicable settlement and the early construction of these projects.

As far as Madras and my particular district is concerned, I want to say just one word. As I said before, the river Cauvery is fully exploited. There are other smaller rivers. I would like this Ministry to give their attention to these rivers. In my district there is the South Pennar river. It starts from Mysore, goes through Salem, reaches South Arcot and Pondicherry and falls into the Bay of Bengal. There are two small projects already constructed and they will be opened for irrigation on the 14th August. I hope one or two minor projects on this river will be given some more attention.

Our district is adjoining Rayalaseema area and it is also practically famine ridden. Though Rayalaseema has become famous, this particular district has not become famous because nobody is there to cry aloud about it. However, I would like the Ministry to treat this area also as a scarcity area and to cover this area also in their programmes for scarcity areas.

The time-lag between the completion of the project and the exploitation of the project was referred to. It is really shocking, that they remain unexploited after spending millions and millions simply passes beyond our comprehension. I want to know why such things happen and how they are going to be avoided in the future.

Shri Dasappa had said that smaller projects give quicker results. It does not depend upon large number of population. A sizable population can tackle these and utilise the facilities and achieve better and quicker results. Therefore I strongly recommend the medium size projects to the Ministry for paying more attention.

Shri Punnoose: During the discussion on Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Members from Kerala did not get a chance to speak. The hon. Speaker was good enough to offer a chance for one of us but we did not want to disturb the arrangements that were already made. In fact I thought that it would be better for me to speak on this occasion when the Demands for Irrigation and Power are taken up. Irrigation and power is in fact the main weapon by which we have to fight for a prosperous India. If we want to progress in the matter of food and work for a brighter India, the question mainly is what we can do in the matter of Irrigation and Power.

Just as in victorious wars great marshalls and commanders come out with glory, so also in this battle for India's prosperity, certainly Hirakud, DVC, Bhakra Nangal and others will stand out. But just as the battle is fought and won by the men at the front, this battle for a better and prosperous India is going to be won by the medium and minor irrigation projects and power projects.

In framing the Second Plan, this major factor has been partially left out. The explanation is that the

States are not able to utilise the allocations in the First Plan. If we have to prosper and make our Plan a success, then we have to make large-scale allocations for the medium and minor irrigation and power projects. This is true for the whole of India and for a State like Kerala in particular which is a deficit State with regard to food. On page 157 of the *Review of the First Five Year Plan*, they make a mention of the irrigation projects in Travancore-Cochin State. They say.

'The irrigation programme of the State of Travancore-Cochin included six major irrigation projects of which four, namely, the Peechi, the Chalakudy, the Perincham and the Waddakanchery were in progress when the Plan was formulated.'

They were expected to irrigate 109,800 acres. Out of these four, Perincham has gone to Madras State as a result of the reorganisation of States. If you look at it closely you will find that the really three big schemes are the Peechi, Chalakudy and Kuttanad. Of these, Kuttanad is the project which was expected to bring a large acreage of land under cultivation and increase the production of paddy.

But, I am afraid that Kuttanad project has not fulfilled its hopes. In one sense it is not complete. It is indicated here that this project was nearing completion by the end of the Plan. It is not yet complete. What has happened is that one part of the project is complete. The spill-way at Thotapalli is complete and it is expected to do two things: to prevent sea water, saline water from making inroads into the paddy fields and secondly to let out or drain out surplus water during flood. The recent flood has proved that the spillway cannot prevent that area from floods. We had a record flood this time.

[Shri Punnoose]

The other part of the project—Thannirmukkam bund—is yet to be completed. It was held up because of some objections raised by the Cochin harbour authorities. I am told that they have now lifted their objections. If Kuttanad project is to be of any use to Kerala State, Thannirmukkam bund has to be immediately taken on hand. If it is done, thousands of acres can be brought under cultivation. We will have two or three crops in place of one crop that we are having in Kuttanad. It is the granary of Kerala and everything that we do to improve cultivation in that area is a positive service to the whole State.

Mention was made about water that could be used by neighbouring States. For sometime some attempts have been made by our Madras friends to secure some amount of water from Kerala State to be utilised for the benefit of Madras.

Shri Dasappa: Water which goes to the sea.

Shri Punnoose: The argument is that in Kerala water is going waste to the sea. But those of us who know it a little more closely and intimately know that the water which is supposed to be going into waste is serving a purpose. Shri Dasappa and others may study this problem and then advise us which we will be happy to accept. During monsoons, we have surplus water. But, what happens during the lean months? The flow in the rivers becomes very much less with the result that saline water, that is water from the sea, comes up. It goes into the paddy fields and cultivation becomes impossible. Even now, without any diversion of water to Madras or any other State on a large scale, this saline water comes up to about 50 miles. Any large-scale diversion of water from these rivers will, therefore, make our area completely useless, it will become completely useless as far as agriculture is concerned.

Therefore, what I want our Madras friends to understand is, we should not look at this problem from one angle alone. We should study this problem. The Central Government should help us to do that. With some amount of representation for my State I might say that we are quite prepared to look into this whole question. Every ounce of available water that can be spared for Madras should be spared, because we know the prosperity of our State rests on the prosperity of the whole of India, especially on the prosperity of our Tamilnad friends and on the prosperity and development of our neighbouring State the State of Mysore.

Mention was made about Barapuzha. That is a project which could have been undertaken much earlier. If the Barapuzha project is taken up that will help Malabar and also areas in Mysore.

But while we speak about this apportionment of water, let one thing be clearly understood. Kerala has some surplus water there is no doubt about it. If we do the proper embankments, if we are able to construct the necessary dams we can certainly spare some water. I am quite clear about that. But, let our friends also remember that we have certain other things also in surplus for example, we have got educated men and women, in a big surplus. There was the question of admitting some of these boys and girls into the engineering and medical colleges in Madras. Shri Dasappa may kindly enquire from his friend Shri Ramaswamy about this. Shri Ramaswamy immediately came out with a Press release that no Malayalee students should be admitted into these colleges, and the Central Government had to come to our rescue. We are sister States. With regard to water we are prepared to behave like sisters, but with regard to admission of students we cannot afford to be treated like a sister-in-law.

Therefore, the whole question has to be studied and a plan has to be

worked out for Kerala. In the past there was no question of any irrigation projects for Kerala because we mainly depended on the sponsoons, and there was no question of any intensive cultivation. Major irrigation works were, therefore, never undertaken in the past. Now, if we have to face the food crisis we have to take up these projects very seriously. It may not be possible for Kerala to become a surplus State, but if we put in sufficient amount of determination and energy, then we can increase our food production. This is quite possible.

But we want a number of minor and medium irrigation projects in the State. The blueprints are already there and the Ministry has only to look into them. The Central and State Ministries should put their heads together and find out ways and means to work these projects.

There is also the question of Pamba River Valley Project which can go a long way to increase our food production.

With regard to electricity, though our State is small it can give a large quantity of electric energy. As early as 20 or 25 years ago our Government started on this line. Even today there is so much of resources that has not yet been tapped. For example, there is the Iddikky project. I am told it can give us 5,00,000 kwts power at a minimum cost. This has to be undertaken. Also, as it was mentioned by some Members, let us have an electricity zone by all means. The question is, suppose Kerala can produce and supply power at a cheaper cost to Madras, is it necessary that Madras itself should undertake the building up of power houses and power projects? There are people who say that it would be cheaper to supply electricity from Kerala to Madras. Let us try to understand our mutual difficulties and share our water and power resources to the best possible use.

There is yet another point which I want this Ministry to look into. I believe this is the proper Ministry to which I should speak about sea erosion. I was looking into these pages of the report, no mention of it is made anywhere. The legend goes that Lord Parasurama reclaimed Kerala from the sea. But, it would appear now that the sea is claiming it back.

Mr Deputy-Speaker. No wrong is being done then.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Does Shri Punnoose want Shri Patil to be modern Parasurama for Kerala?

Shri Punnoose: The people of Kerala will not allow their land to be overtaken by sea. Kerala will be protected. There are areas where large-scale sea erosions take place. There are places like Chellanam near Ernakulam, Trikunnappuzha and other areas. The whole area from Tankassery to Alleppy is under this threat. The sea has encroached up to two or three miles and hundreds of houses are being washed away every year. No serious step is taken. At Chellanam a wall is being built, but it is not done on any large scale or with the amount of energy with which it has to be undertaken. If Holland can exist, I am sure Kerala can be protected provided there is the will to do it. If our engineers cannot find out the means for that the Central Government should get some expert engineers who can help us. That situation is a very grave one from which the people of Kerala suffer a lot. I would, therefore, request the Ministry to give top priority to this problem.

In conclusion I would say that medium and small irrigation projects and also power projects which can be developed on a very large scale have to be undertaken immediately, and immediate steps have to be taken to effectively ward off the sea erosion that is taking place in Kerala.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda):
 Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we have heard many points raised of importance regarding irrigation and power scheme. I do not propose to reiterate these. First, I want to say that I welcome the move that the new Minister for Irrigation has taken up in regard to the canal water dispute. I think this is a matter that has been standing for over long, and it is time that in spite of the distortion of facts into which Pakistan goes we should come to a final decision.

Sir, there is not much time at my disposal, and there are one or two very major points which I should like to stress. The first is in regard to the Ganga Barrage Project. This is a matter about which we have been hearing for the last one decade. A decade has come and gone and yet nothing has been done about it.

15 hrs

In the budget allocations there is only 10½ lakhs for the Ganga Barrage Project. Yet, we know that the preliminary work has been done, investigation report submitted, foreign experts have been consulted and yet, we do not get a move on. It is admitted that there are many reasons and particularly four reasons—major reasons for which this Ganga Barrage Project is urgently required. I think everyone in India knows about the silting up of the Calcutta port and about which an hon. Member mentioned in this House yesterday. The silting up of this port can be really checked effectively only if the Ganga Barrage is constructed. The floodings that are now taking place are taking place in areas which never know flood before. The need for drainage of land which can be done if the Ganga Barrage comes in, is very essential, and has to be fulfilled.

Last but not least, there is the erosion that is taking place in certain parts of West Bengal. It would not only serve to check the floods in Bengal but also in Bihar. For all

these reasons, the Ganga Barrage get a move on as I said. I cannot understand some of the reasons that were raised, namely, that the canal water dispute is on and that therefore we should wait. When a thing is urgently required, it should be proceeded with. In any case, what has it got to do with the canal water dispute in the West, I do not know. It is admitted by experts that East Bengal, which is also suffering due to the uncontrolled waters, would be benefited in the area adjoining Farakka, if this barrage was built. So there is no legitimate reason to put off this scheme on that ground.

I spoke earlier about the port of Calcutta. Recently, the country was rudely shaken by the fact that large numbers of ships were lying outside our ports and we were having to pay heavy demurrage in spite of the tight position of our foreign exchange resources, in spite of our tight monetary position. That is one aspect of the question. Outside Calcutta port on the 6th July, 24 ships waited at Sandheads because of the incapacity of the port to berth these ships. The size of ships that Calcutta port can berth is also going down. At a time when international shipping decided upon large ships for reasons of economy, the capacity of Calcutta port is reduced. The temporary expediency adopted is dredging the harbour which is getting silting up. The silting process started many many years ago and during the war years we have been talking about having the project by which this will be checked, but nothing has been done.

The other day, speaking to the Parliamentary Group the Prime Minister was telling us about his experiences abroad, and spoke about the fact that the port of Rotterdam which had been wrecked during the war years has been rebuilt with a capacity of 40 million tons a year for handling commodities. In the whole of India with its vast coast line, our handling capacity is much less. The port of Calcutta had the highest—between 8 and 9 million tons. Now it is well known that this capacity is going down due

to the silting up process. In other lands they go ahead. In India also, we are trying to progress in so many other ways. But how is it and why is it that this major necessity of the port which had the highest capacity for handling commodities in India should be allowed to go down in this way? This morning, in reply to a question, the Deputy Minister of Transport, said that dredgers in Calcutta port were being purchased. These dredgers are merely a temporary expedient. It has been admitted that one of the reasons why dredgers which have been there for the last 44 years or 36 years still continue is that ten years ago it was decided that the Ganga Barrage Project is going to come, and so, there is no need to change. Yet, I do not know when the Ganga Project is going to be implemented. That is about the port, but that is not the only side. As I said, the floods have increased due to the fact that the Ganga does not enter into the Bhageerathi-Hooghly rivers and the capacity of the spill channel now is so limited. The result of all this is that last year we had unprecedented floods in Bengal areas which never had floods and some of which had no floods for some years. All this is due to the fact that we are allowing this uncontrolled water to remain unchecked and because the capacity of the spill channel is reduced.

Thirdly, it is admitted that the land frontage of West Bengal is so very limited that we are not able to take extra people in even with the best of will to do so. If the barrage was built some areas would be drained. Some of the people who today cannot get land would be able to get land. We are going in for new projects such as reclamation of the salt lake area. Here, if the Ganga Barrage was built so much land would be reclaimed.

Last but not least, the most important point from the human point of view is the tremendous erosion that is taking place near Farakka and its opposite bank. The town of Dhulian,

the flourishing busy town of Dhulian in 1948 has completely disappeared into oblivion. The only visible sign that the town was ever there, is the high cable posts of the railways which were once there and which are just above the water level now. This is the tragedy of Dhulian town. The people moved to the hinterland, but their tragedy was not over because the erosion still continues on this side of Murshidabad district and its opposite bank in the Malda district. Year after year, during the rainy season, the homesteads disappear and land shrinks. We are used in this country to the floods, floods recede after sometime, but those who lose the entire land—becoming refugees—move into hinterland. They are really displaced persons. Not once, but some of them twice or three times have lost their all. They feel that their problem is unknown in the rest of India. It is quite true, that it is an inaccessible area. I do not know how many Members of this House have ever been to that area. I wish that they could go and see what happens to the people during the rainy season when parts of their house go down into the river and the remaining parts crumble down the next time. They build in the hinterland. The State Government has done all that it could do. But all that it could do is to give the people relief in the nature of grants or loans for house-building. But that is done only in the case of the poorest. It is an area which comprises middle-classes who were not so badly off at one time but today, they are almost beggars. This is the position of the area near Farakka. I am sure that if Members of the House saw it and if the hon. Minister goes and sees it, in spite of the fact that in India we do face so many calamities, they would be moved to tears when they see the plight of those people. Those people feel neglected, forsaken, forgotten, because they are in a very inaccessible area. The building of the barrage, it has been held, would help them. Even if it is started now, it will take time for completion. Since 1948 when the erosion started, and upto this time,

[Shrimati Renuka Ray]

the effect of erosion has been very great. When erosion started and Dhulian began to disappear, I wonder if from that time till now any Central Government expert has been there to see it at least. I would ask the Minister to find out and to see whether some effective measures could be taken to check the erosion there.

This is not an area near Calcutta whose needs come to light immediately, because the people there are not as vociferous as town people. This is an inaccessible area and people have been waiting patiently, because they have been told that the Farakka barrage project, the Ganga barrage project, is going to be implemented soon. But in the meantime, as I said, a decade has gone. I would plead with the hon. Minister to take up this project and also to see what temporary measures can be taken up in the area that is getting eroded now, so that at least next year, when the rainy season comes, the people will feel that what is left after the rainy season this year will remain.

The land of West Bengal is limited enough and yet the land frontage is visibly shrinking and shrinking further year after year. If the Ganga barrage project came, it would, not merely benefit one area, but it would benefit an international and national port and also communications right up to eastern U.P.

There is one other point which I wanted to take up. I have no time for details; I would just like to bring it to the hon. Minister's notice. I think the survey report shows that a good amount of land has been irrigated through minor irrigation schemes and small irrigation schemes. So far as this has been done, it is good. But I would suggest that, since long-term schemes take time and resources, we should pay much more attention to the minor irrigation works. I know that a number of bunds have been erected here and there, irrigation tubewells put up and tanks excavated.

But sometimes these are not done in the proper manner. Expert opinion should be taken first and then, through the community projects or any other agency the Minister feels fit, this might be taken up. If this is done on a much more widespread scale than is being hitherto done, I am sure we shall be able to go ahead in the conversion of this land into a land of plenty much more quickly than we have done in the past.

I will end on a note of optimism. It is an exhilarating feeling that one gets when one visits some of these great river valley projects which have been completed or are nearing completion in such a short time after independence and through which our turbulent and untamed rivers are being harnessed to the welfare of the country. Undoubtedly, in implementing such large schemes many mistakes are made many faults and defects come to light. It is only human to err. But we must be vigilant to take steps to see that these are set right and that mistakes are rectified. I hope that whatever has gone wrong will be set right. Nevertheless, through a decade we are progressing; we are going ahead and through the effort of our own people we are able to build these big river valley projects. It is indeed a tremendous and a great thing; I do not want to decry any part of it, but I do say that it needs careful vigilance and particular attention to see that the margin of error is limited. More attention should also be paid to the things that should have prior consideration. More specially do I think that a project like the Ganga barrage project, which will cover the needs not only of one kind, should not be delayed. I hope the hon. Minister will give us an assurance on this point.

With these words, I support the demands.

पंडित बबू न. रावण 'ब्रजेश': (शिवपुरी) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सिंचाई के सम्बन्ध में
बड़े लम्बे समय से इसकथान चल रहा है ।

इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि अन्न उत्पादन के लिए जल का अपना एक विशेष स्थान है। यदि बीज को पानी न मिले तो वह पृथ्वी में सूख जायेगा और हम कितनी भी आशा लगाये बैठे रहें कुछ मिल नहीं सकेगा। अस्तु देश में अन्न संकट है और उस अन्न संकट से बचने के लिए बीज को जल की आवश्यकता है। इस लिए सिंचाई विभाग का देश में अपना एक प्रमुख स्थान है। सिंचाई के लिए राज्य के द्वारा जितनी भी सहायता मिल सके मिलनी चाहिए, यह बात निर्विवाद है, इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है।

मैं जानता हूँ कि इस समस्या का राजनीति से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है किन्तु मैं यह भी मानता हूँ जैसा कि कि ऋषियों ने कहा है : "सर्वे धर्माः राज्य धर्मो प्रविष्टाः।" जितने भी धर्म हैं वे सब राज्य के अन्तर्गत आ जाते हैं। तो यह समस्या भी प्रकारान्तर से उसके साथ मिल जाती है। यह राज्य का एक प्रकार से वैश्य कर्म है। 'कृषि, गोरक्ष, वाणिज्य, वैश्य कर्म स्वभावजम्'। कृषि गोरक्षा और वाणिज्य ये स्वभाव से ही वैश्य कर्म हैं। इसलिए राज्य का यह कार्य वैश्य कर्म होता है। खेत के द्वारा अन्न का उत्पादन करना और उस अन्न उत्पादन में जो जो सहायक साधन हों उन सब को देश में बढ़ाना यह राज्य का परमावश्यक कर्तव्य है। अस्तु इसलिए यह सिंचाई का कार्य राज्यों के लिए सबसे अधिक महत्व रखता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह कहना कि इस दिशा में राज्य ने ध्यान नहीं दिया है गलत होगा। मैं जानता हूँ कि अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करने की ओर हमारे राज्य का ध्यान सबसे पहले गया है और यह इसलिए गया कि राज्य को मालूम है कि अंग्रेजों ने जब यह देखा कि उनको भारतवर्ष छोड़ना पड़ेगा और स्वराज्य इन लोगों के हाथ में देना होगा तो उन्होंने हमारे सब प्रकार के कोषों को नष्ट कर दिया। उन्होंने हमारे अन्न के कोष को सड़ा दिया और समुद्र में फिकवा दिया और लोगों को भूखों मार दिया। ऐसी भयानक और विषम अवस्था में राज्य हाथ में आया तो उसको धीरे ही

धीरे ऊपर उठाया जा सकता है। उस दिशा में मैं प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं, बांध बनाये जा रहे हैं और इनके द्वारा सारे देश में जल पहुंचाने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है। किन्तु जितनी प्रगति होनी चाहिए उतनी न होने के कारण जनता में असंतोष पैदा होता है और फिर गड़बड़ी उत्पन्न हो जाती है। मैं कहता हूँ कि ये जो बांध बनाये गये हैं यह बड़ा उत्तम कार्य किया गया है और उनके द्वारा सिंचाई भी हो रही है। किन्तु इन बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं में श्रव्य अधिक लगता है और परिणाम देर से निकलता है और जनता की मनोवृत्ति यह है कि वह इधर देती है और उधर लेना चाहती है। उसे पता नहीं कि कब बांध बनेगा, कब नहरें निकलेंगी और फिर कब पानी सिंचाई के लिए आयेगा। इस समय मुझे एक देहाती कहावत याद आती है : 'कब मरेगी सासू और कब आयेंगे आसू।' न जाने कब सासू मरेगी और हम कब उसके लिए बैठ कर रोयेंगे। कब ये बांध बनेंगे, कब नहरें निकलेंगी और कब पानी आयेगा। बूढ़ा आदमी तो कहता है कि हम तो ऐसे ही मर जायेंगे तुम्हारे समय में जो हो सो तुम देखना।

जो पार्टी आज देश में शासन करती है उसने जनता को बड़े बड़े आश्वासन दिये हैं, और आश्वासन देने पड़ते हैं यह मैं जानता हूँ। लेकिन वे आश्वासन पूरे नहीं हो रहे हैं। रामराज्य का नारा लगाया गया और कहा गया कि देश में घी और दूध की नदियां बहेंगी। लेकिन आज लोगों को अपनी फसल के लिये पानी तक नहीं मिल रहा है और उनके गल सूख रहे हैं। घी और दूध की नदियां तो बहेंगी सब बहेंगी, आज तो उनकी फसलें सूख रही हैं। आज यह स्थिति हो गयी है, इसलिए आज सिंचाई को इतना महत्व दिया जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि ये बड़ी बड़ी योजनायें जो चलायी जा रही हैं उनके साथ साथ अनेक छोटी छोटी योजनायें भी चलाने रहना चाहिए। हमको ऐसा काम भी करते रहना चाहिए जिससे कि हमारा दैनिक काम भी

[पंडित राजकुमारदास "श्रवण"]

चलता रहे। जब हम ज्यादा उन्नति कर लेंगे तो ससार में हमारा क्या स्थान होगा इसकी योजना भी हम अपनेमस्तिष्क में रखें लेकिन इस बीच हमारा दैनिक काम ही कहीं बन्द न हो जाये इस तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। भाषको जानना चाहिये कि देश के किन किन भागों में किस किस प्रकार की योजनायें सफल हो सकती हैं, उन भागों में वैसे ही योजनायें लागू की जानी चाहिए। भारतवर्ष में बहुत से ऐसे स्थान हैं जिनकी भूमि समतल है, वहा तो नहरों से काम चल सकता है और नदियों को बाधने से काम चल सकता है। लेकिन जो प्रान्त पहाडी और ऊबड़खाबड ह, जहा बड़े बड़े पहाड हैं वहा पर नदियों को बाध कर नहरे निकालने की कल्पना करना भी व्यर्थ है। वहा तो सबसे आवश्यक यह होगा कि थोडी थोडी भूमि में पानी को रोक कर पानी का प्रबन्ध किया जाये या कहीं कहीं छोटे छोटे सागर बना कर पानी दिया जाये या खेतों में ही छोटे छोटे बाध बना कर सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध किया जाये। मैं मध्यप्रदेश से आता हू। वहा बहुत बडे इलाके में नहरे नहीं पहुचाने जा सकती चाहे किसना भी प्रयत्न किया जाये। कुछ तो वहा भूमि ही ऐसी है कि उसमें पानी नीचे चला जाता है और दूसरी तरफ निकल जाता है, कुछ ऐसा पर्वतीय इलाका है कि जहा नहरे जा हो नहीं सकती और जब वहा इस प्रकार की योजनाये बनायी जाती है तो लोगों को उन पर विरवास नहीं होता। वहा पर गांधी सागर बना कर पानी पहुचाने की योजना है। मैं तो कहता हू कि कभी कभी शासन आख मूढ कर बैठ जाता है घृतराष्ट्र तो अन्धा हो पा किन्तु हमारी सरकार तो कभी कभी बहरी और अन्धी दोनों ही हो जाती है। इस योजना के सिलसिले में लक्ष लक्ष रुपया लग गया और वहा पर बाध बनाने की तैयारी हो लेकिन अभी एक इंजिनियर साहब वहा पहुचें। और उन्होंने भूमि का शोधन करके यह निर्णय दिया कि यहा तो बाध बन ही नहीं सकता।

इस प्रकार जो भूमि बांध के लिए खोजी गयी थी उस पर जो लाखों रुपया खर्च हुआ वह व्यर्थ गया। जनता इसी के लिये रोती है और कहती है कि क्या सरकार के पास इतने भी साधन नहीं है कि पहले निश्चय कर ले कि वहा कहा बाध बनाना ठीक होगा और इसका सही सही निर्णय कर सके। पहले हमारा पैसा लगा दिया जाता है और फिर कह देते हैं कि यहा बाध नहीं बन सकता। इस प्रकार जब पैसे का दुरुपयोग होता है तो जनता को दुःख होता है। वैसे हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है। कभी हमारे यहा फ्लड्स आते हैं, कभी अतिवृष्टि होती है कभी अनावृष्टि होती है। इस प्रकार एक ओर भगवान हमसे नाराज होता है और उधर जब पैसा इस प्रकार खर्च हो जाता है और कोई काम नहीं होता तो ऐसी दशा में अगर लोग हाय करे तो क्या आश्चर्य है? आज देश में ऐसी ही स्थिति है। मैं तो हाउस के सामने यह बात रखना चाहता हू कि इन बडी बडी योजनाओं के साथ छोटी छोटी योजनाओं को भी चलाना चाहिए जितने अधिक स्थानों पर हम कुछ बना सके और उनमें पानी दे सके वह हमें देना चाहिये मैं तो कुओं के लिये विशेष प्रार्थना करूंगा।

गांधी जी ने हमारे देश में सत्य और अहिंसा का नारा लगाया था। हमको इन सिद्धान्तों का सबसे पहले अपने घर वालों के साथ प्रयोग करना चाहिए था। लेकिन मुझे आश्चर्य होता है कि दूसरे के प्रति तो हम सत्य और अहिंसा का व्यवहार करते हैं लेकिन अपने घर वालों को मारते हैं और उनसे झू बोलते हैं। यह उलटा कार्य यहा हो रहा है। होना तो यह चाहिए था कि अपने घर वालों को जो वचन हम दे उसका ईमानदारी से पालन करे। आज देश में सबसे बडी समस्या छोटे छोटे काम चलाने के लिये बैलों की है। हमको बैलों की आवश्यकता है। आज जिस दल का शासन है उसे अपने लिये बैलों का सिम्बल चुना था। बैल तो सिम्बल चुना परन्तु देश

में गाय की जिससे बैल पैदा होता है, हत्या हो रही है। गाय की हत्या और बैल की छाप यह तो ऐसी बात है कि जैसे कोई किसी छोटे बच्चे को माँ को मार दे और फिर उस बच्चे को लेकर भोज मांगे कि इसके लिए खाने को दो। यही हाल हम को श्रीलंका में दिखायी दे रहा है कि गाय की तो हत्या की जाती है और बैल की छाप लगायी हुई है। जब जनता को ऐसे ऐसे जिम्मेदार आदमी धोखा देते हों तो उसको कैसे विश्वास हो सकता है कि जो योजना बनायी जा रही है वह सफल होगी। इस अवस्था में तो सन्देह पैदा होता है। इससे कैरेक्टर को भी धक्का लगता है और लोग सोचते हैं कि—आजकल तो झूठ बोलने से ही काम चलता है क्योंकि बड़े बड़े लोग तक ऐसा कर रहे हैं। इधर बैल मिल नहीं रहे हैं, मर्हंगे हो रहे हैं, लोगों के पास अपने रेहट चलाने को बैल नहीं है। लोग सोचते हैं कि जब गांधी सागर से पानी आयेगा तब आयेगा, अभी हमको अपने...ट चलाने के लिए बैल तो मिलें। लेकिन बैल महंगे हो रहे हैं। इधर स्थिति यह है कि कुछ आदमियों ने सरकार का रुपया खाना शुरू कर दिया है। कुछ लोग जल कष्ट निवारण के नाम पर सरकार से पैसे ले रहे हैं। मेरे सामने एक ऐसा उदाहरण है कि जल कष्ट निवारण को पैसे ले लिया लेकिन ऐसी जगह के लिए लिया गया जहाँ पर न कोई आदमी रहता है और जिस जगह के पास ही एक नाला बह रहा है। तो इस तरह से हमारा पैसे पानी की तरह बह रहा है और जहाँ उमका उपयोग होना चाहिए वहाँ नहीं हो रहा है। इस कारण हमको पानी मिलता नहीं। यह स्थिति हमारे यहाँ आज हो रही है।

उधर प्रान्तों का यह हाल है कि वे केन्द्र से पैसे खींचना चाहते हैं। वे अपने यहाँ कुछ पैदा नहीं करते हैं और सदा केन्द्र से मांगते रहते हैं। उन्होंने यह पालिसी बना ली है कि वे हर अवसर पर केन्द्र को कह देते हैं कि पैसे लाइये, फिर हम अमुक काम चलायेंगे।

केन्द्र को एक प्रकार का बांध बना लिया गया है और प्रान्त महर्ने बन गई हैं। हम तो कहते हैं कि इससे उलटा होना चाहिये। प्रान्त केन्द्र को पैसे दें और केन्द्र शक्तिशाली बन कर बैठे और ऊपर से सब काम चलाए। अगर प्रांत केन्द्र से पैसा न लें, तभी मैं समझूंगा कि मेरा राज्य मजबूत हुआ है। आज तो स्थिति यह है कि प्रान्त केन्द्र को खा रहे हैं और अपने यहाँ बजट घाटे का बनाते हैं। वहाँ इस समय उत्पत्ति का कोई मार्ग नहीं है। ऊपर से लेते रहना ही उनका तरीका बन गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि प्रान्तों पर केन्द्र का जोर पड़ना चाहिए कि स्वयं आत्म-निर्भर हों—नीचे का कार्य वे करें और ऊपर का कार्य केन्द्र देखेगा। प्रश्न तो यह है कि यह सिलसिला कब तक चलेगा? केन्द्र कब तक टैक्स लगायेगा? जब जनता के पास देने के लिए कुछ नहीं रहेगा तब केन्द्र कहाँ से प्रान्तों को पैसे देगा? इधर पार्टी और राज्य अभिय होते जा रहे हैं, उधर प्रान्त वाले खींचे चले जा रहे हैं उधर मुद्रा-स्फीति तंग कर रही है। काप में पैसा नहीं है। विदेशी मुद्रा का झगड़ा हमारे सामने खड़ा हुआ है। शक्कर बाहर भोजने के लिए हमारे पास नहीं है। आज इस देश में गायें जो काटी जा रही हैं, उसका कारण भी यही है कि उनके चमड़े, हड्डी, आते और पसली इत्यादि बाहर भोज कर किन्मी प्रकार विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त की जा सके। यह किमने दुख की बात है कि जो पशु हम को घो, दूध, चमड़ा और खाद देते हैं, हम उन्हीं की हत्या करत हैं। क्या हमारे सत्य और अहिंसा के नारे का यही अर्थ है? क्या बापू ने हम को यह सिखाया था? गांधी जी ने तो हम को यह बताया था कि अगर राज्य को अच्छी बनाना है, तो हम को सम्पत्ति का विकेन्द्रीकरण करना होगा और सत्य और अहिंसा पर अपने आप को आधारित करना होगा। आज हम बड़ी बड़ी पाश्चात्यीय योजनाओं को हाथ में ले रहे हैं, मैं मानता हूँ कि उन्हें भी हम को लेना होगा लेकिन हमारा अपना जो प्रकार है वह भी हमारे साथ रहे, उसका

[पंडित ब्रज नारायण "ब्रजेस"]

हम पूर्णतया परिस्थाय न कर दें, इसका हमें ध्यान रखना होगा। हम को अपनापन भी बिल्कुल छोड़ नहीं देना चाहिए। समय के साथ भी हम स्ट्रगल करने के लिए तैयार हैं। जहां तक समय के साथ चलने का प्रश्न है, हमारे यहां बाध और नहरों की बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं होनी चाहिए और छोटी योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत पशुवध—गाऊ हत्या—बिल्कुल बन्द कर दिया जाना चाहिए। मैं सिचार्ड विभाग के मंत्री महोदय से भी प्रार्थना करूंगा कि उन्हें भी इस विषय में जोर देना चाहिए। इस हाउस से भी मैं यह प्रार्थना करूंगा कि ठीक है, एक पालिसी बनी हुई है, किसी कारण से वह चलाई जा रही है, लेकिन उन को फिर भी इस सम्बन्ध में जोर देना चाहिए, चुप नहीं हो जाना चाहिए। मुझे यह देख कर दुख हुआ कि कृषि के ऊपर बोलते हुए सेठ गोविन्द दास को छोड़ कर—और उन को मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ—किसी भी माननीय सदस्य ने इस पर जोर नहीं दिया। मेरा निवेदन है कि यह तो कृतघ्नता है, हम को अपने घर में घरनी बात कहनी चाहिए।

अन्त में मैं जो बात कहना चाहता हूँ, उसका सम्बन्ध राजनीति से है। पाकिस्तान में पानी ले लेने, आख दिखाने और पैसा न देने का जो धधा पकड़ रखा है, उस को रोकने के लिए सरकार का कदम उठाना चाहिए। वह हम से पानी न लेना है और उमका पैसा हमको देता नहीं है और इस पर भी बुनिया में हमारे खिलाफ प्रापेण्ड करता है, प्रचार करता है। क्या हम में बिल्कुल पानी नहीं रह गया है? क्या हम यह सब देखते रहेंगे? हमारा कहना यह है कि सरकार को इस सम्बन्ध में जोर का कदम उठाना चाहिए और पाकिस्तान को बता देना चाहिए कि उसकी यह नीति अब नहीं चल सकती है। आज हमारे यहां पाटिल साहब बैठे हुए हैं। एक बार सरदार पटेल न कहा था कि तलवार

का जबाब तलवार से दिया जायगा। वह पाकिस्तान को मिला नहीं है। पाकिस्तान जानता है कि हिन्दुस्तान वाले सिर्फ कहते ही हैं, करते नहीं हैं, इसलिए उसका साहस बढ़ रहा है। इस लिए इस पानी के मामले पर हम को बता देना चाहिए कि हम में पानी है, घुम पानी लो और उसका पैसा न दो, ऐसा नहीं हो सकता है और हम भूल मरने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। इस विषय में मंत्री महोदय ने जो कहा है, उन्हें उस पर दृढ़तापूर्वक डटे रहना चाहिए और पाकिस्तान को इस प्रकार से पानी का दुरुपयोग करने का अवसर न देकर अपने देश के लिए सिचार्ड की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए और जिस प्रान्त का जितने जल की आवश्यकता हो, उसे वह पहुंचाना चाहिए।

साथ ही मेरी यह भी प्रार्थना है कि देश में जो पूजनीय विचार हैं, अगर उन को ध्यान में रखा जायगा, तो स समय जो बड़े बड़े फलड्रज आने हैं, उन को भी रोका जा सकेगा, हमारे यहां सोचने का यह भी तरीका है हर एक बात के तीन उपाय हैं—आधि-भौतिक, आधिदैविक और आध्यात्मिक। आज हम जो बाध, नहरे इत्यादि बना रहे हैं, वह तो आधिभौतिक तरीका है। परन्तु यदि हम में बाध बनाया, नहरें बनाई, लोगों को पानी दिया, बीज दिए, सब सुविधाएँ दी और उसके पश्चात् ऊपर से जोर में झोला गिरे या जोर से पानी गिरे, तब क्या होगा?

पंडित गोविन्द मालवीय (मुल्तानपुर)
अगर खेत सींचा रहता है और उस में पानी है और ऊपर से झोला पड़ता है, तब उतना नुक्सान नहीं होता है, जितना कि सूखा रहने से, सिचार्ड का प्रबन्ध न होने से, होता है।

पंडित ब्रज नारायण "ब्रजेस" . अगर खेत गीला है और रोली लग गई या और कुछ हो गया, तब क्या होगा? में वैसी प्रकृति है।

“अपूर्वया यत्र पूज्यन्ते, पूज्यानास्तु व्यतिक्रम
वीणि तत्राणि जायन्ते, तेषु दुर्भिक्षं विप्नवन्”

इन देवी प्रकोपो और विपत्तियों को रोकने के लिए हम को देवी आम्बार लेना होगा और उस का एक रूप यह है कि जो हमारा कल्याण करे, हम भी उस का कल्याण करें। धर्म का जाने लीजिए। गाय हमारा कल्याण करती है। वह हम को दूध, घी, खाद, चमड़ा देती है, इसलिए हम को भी उस पर अपन प्राण देने के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए। कम से कम उस की हत्या ता बन्द कर ही देनी चाहिए। पाकिस्तान न गोवध बन्द कर दिया है, तो फिर भारत को सरकार ऐसा क्यों नहीं कर सकती है? उस को तो पहले ही यह कदम उठाना चाहिए था। अर्थिभौतिक उपाय तो हम कर ही रहे हैं। इस प्रकार आधिदैविक उपाय कर के हम देवों विपत्तियों का भी ठेक सकेंगे।

Shri Sanganna: I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak at the fag end of the debate

The expenditure on irrigation and power during the First Plan was Rs 569 crores, that is 29 per cent of the total expenditure under the First Plan. In the First Plan the major projects like Bhakra-Nangal, Hirakud and DVC were taken up, but no attention was paid to the medium and minor projects. The area brought under cultivation is 3 million acres as against an estimate of 8.5 million acres, and the areas actually irrigated was a little over 4 million acres of land. So, though an attempt was made, much of the land has not been brought under the plough. Against this background, the second Plan is going to be implemented.

Under the Second Plan a correct estimate of the water resources has not been made. As a matter of fact, most of the rivers in far-off places like the tribal areas have not been taken into consideration. It may be a fact that these places are not accessible in the ordinary way, but then

the plans that are being framed under the Second Plan may not be exhaustive because there is no comprehensive data.

Coming to the State of Orissa, there are so many rivers which are not utilised. There are so many big rivers and jungle streams which are perennial in nature, but they are not taken into consideration for irrigation resources. In this connection, I might refer to the District of Koraput which is predominantly populated by the tribal people, where flows the river Indravati, a long and wide river which traverses fertile and rich arable area, but as there are no irrigation facilities the water is going to waste into the Bay of Bengal. Had these waters been utilised, most of the land covered in this catchment area would have been useful.

The people inhabiting this area are mostly hill tribes. Though these people possess waste lands, they are not able to improve their economic condition by any means. Though the Government of India and the State Government have been sanctioning every year lakhs of rupees for the improvement of these people, they are not able to do so. Under the scheme for the assignment of waste land, the Government of Orissa has been allotting every year large lands, but due to lack of irrigation facilities they are not being utilised for the proper purpose. As a matter of fact, these lands are potential enough to produce food crops as well as money crops. Even under the present circumstances, the District of Koraput is able to produce food crops to the extent it is able to contribute to the surplus that is being exported to other deficit areas in the country. As a matter of fact, even this year it has been able to export some surplus of food. So, unless the potentialities of this area are exploited, I think the economic condition of these people who are most backward educationally and economically cannot be brought to the levels of the other States.

Besides this river Indravati, there are other rivers like the Sileru and

[Shri Sanganna],

Saveri which are in the Dandakaranya project area. If the Government of India and the Orissa Government are anxious to implement that project, I think they will have to take into consideration these two rivers. Unless these two rivers are utilised fully, I am sure that project will not be successful. Most of the area covered by these two rivers is fertile and if these two rivers are properly utilised, most of the land in this catchment area can be brought under cultivation.

Moreover, the water that is being released from Machkund project is also joining these two rivers. So, if all these three rivers are utilised fully, most of the land that is now fallow will be properly utilised for greater production of foodstuffs in this area of the State.

There is another river, the Jhanjapati, in the southern portion of Orissa State. This is a very useful river, but the Government of Orissa as well as the other State connected with this river are not able to utilise its waters. As a matter of fact, this matter has been investigated, but the Government of Orissa as well as Andhra State are not in a position to bring it under the irrigation system. So, unless the State Governments are placed in a better position in the matter of finance, I am afraid, however big the schemes may be that are drawn up, the irrigation system in the State will not improve. As a matter of fact, the existing irrigation facilities in Orissa are a few and far between. So, if proper attention is not given to minor and medium irrigation projects, I think the water that is now going to waste to the sea will not be utilised for irrigation purposes.

Coming to power, I may say there are two multi-purpose projects, the Machkund and the Hirakud projects, for the exploitation of electricity. Besides these, there is another small waterfall on the river Bagra in the district of Koraput which can be utilised for generating electric power.

This waterfall is situated in an area where most of the population is tribal and so I think it has not been brought to the notice of Government. Had this been done, by this time something might have been done. Under the circumstances, a large amount of money has to be placed at the disposal of the State Government.

The power at the disposal of the State Government is not being utilised because they are not in a position to find the load. Unless some assistance is given to the State Government to set up industries, I think the power at the disposal of the Government of Orissa may not be utilised.

The Machkund project has been commissioned since 1955, but the State is not in a position to utilise its entire quota on account of financial stringency. Had this been properly utilised, I think the whole of Orissa, particularly most of the backward areas, might have been supplied with electricity, and the economic situation would have changed. So, in order to utilise the power that is at the disposal of the State Government, proper financial assistance may be given.

Under the Five Year Plan I think there is no other scheme, except the two I have mentioned, which has been financed and assisted by the Government of India. Only these two schemes have been implemented. They are not sufficient for the purpose, of power required by the State. So I think the Government of India will come to the rescue of the Government of Orissa to utilise other potentialities available in the State of Orissa.

Coming to the problem of floods, I would like to point out that in the year 1955, Orissa was visited by the most unprecedented and devastating type of floods. The damage caused to life and property was so colossal that even the Prime Minister and the Food and Agriculture Minister thought it fit to visit that area. The damage was so much that it can only be imagined rather than expressed.

So far as the Hirakud dam is concerned, it is to be completed at three stages. The dam at Hirakud is now completed, but the other dams at Tikrapara and Naraj have not been completed. From the report of the Ministry, I find that no provision has been made so far to complete these portions. In reply to a question which I put the other day, the Minister stated that no provision had been made for these two dams. Unless these two dams are completed, I am afraid we shall not be in a position to protect the State of Orissa from the floods with the aid of the Hirakud dam.

Coming to irrigation, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that now there is a delta irrigation system being worked out from the Hirakud dam to the coastal areas of Puri and Cuttack. The State Government are struggling hard to complete the scheme, because they do not have the necessary financial resources at their disposal. Unless the Government of India places some financial assistance at the disposal of the Orissa Government for this purpose, I am afraid the delta irrigation system which is worth Rs 15 crores may not be completed within the stipulated time.

Under these circumstances, I request that for the improvement of the irrigation system and for the utilisation of the potentialities of the State of Orissa, the Government of India should see that adequate finances are placed at the disposal of the Government of Orissa.

With these words, I support the Demands.

श्री म० च० जन (कंसल) : माननीय डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब जल तथा पशु की साधनों का मुनासिब विकास और फिर उनका मुनासिब इस्तेमाल हो, यह दोनों बातें किसी भी देश के लिये बहुत महत्व रखती हैं। इसलिये इस प्रोग्राम को हमारी दोनों पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में बहुत ऊँचा स्थान

दिया गया है। इन साधनों का हमारी इस मिनिस्ट्री ने मुनासिब ढंग से विकास किया है या नहीं, कौन सी कमी पर हम अपनी मिनिस्ट्री की कार्रवाइयों को परखें, यह देखने की बात है। अगर इन साधनों का ठीक विकास हुआ है और विकास होने के बाद उनकी ठीक तरह से तफ्तीम हुई है और फिर उनका ठीक इस्तेमाल होता है तो हमारी यह मिनिस्ट्री बधाई की पात्र है।

जहाँ तक वाटर और लैंड और खास तौर से वाटर के साधनों के डिवेलपमेंट का ताल्लुक है, मुझे यह कहने में तनिक भी संकोच नहीं है कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री ने शानदार काम किया है और देश के मुस्तलिफ हिस्सों में कई बड़ी बड़ी योजनायें शुरू की हैं और कुछ तो पूरी भी हो गई हैं और बाकी पूरी होने जा रही हैं। इम हाउस में इन बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं का काफी जिक्र किया गया है, और बहुत अच्छे ढंग से जिक्र किया गया है। ये वे योजनायें हैं जिन के बारे में हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने ठीक ही कहा है कि वे हमारे इस जमाने के मंदिर हैं।

जहाँ तक इन बड़ी बड़ी योजनायों की कामयाबी का ताल्लुक है, इनके सिलसिले में मुझे यह कहना है कि हमें यह देखना चाहिये कि आया वे इकोनॉमिकली एक्सीप्यूट की जा रही है या नहीं, वहाँ पर कोरप्शन तो नहीं है, उनका जिन लोगों को फायदा पहुँच रहा है, क्या वह मुनासिब कीमत पर पहुँचाया जा रहा है, उनको जो पानी मिल रहा है क्या वह मुनासिब कीमत पर दिया जा रहा है।

जब इन प्रोजेक्ट्स को शुरू किया गया था, उस वक्त इनमें बहुत वेस्टेज थी, बहुत कोरप्शन थी, लेकिन आहिस्ता आहिस्ता जैसे जैसे हमें तजुर्बा हासिल होता गया, तो यह मानना पड़ेगा कि बहुत सी कोरप्शन और वेस्टेज कम हो गई। जिस जिस हद तक यह कोरप्शन और वेस्टेज कम हुई है उस उस हद तक मैं मिनिस्ट्री को बधाई

[श्री यू० च० जैन].

देता हूँ और उसके साथ ही साथ मिनिस्टर साहब को भी बचाई देता हूँ। यह बात नहीं है कि कोरप्शन बिल्कुल खत्म हो गई है या बेस्टेज बिल्कुल खत्म हो गई है। अभी तक भी ये चल रही हैं और इन दो फील्ड्स में काफी सुधार की गुंजाइश है।

इन फायदों को, जो कि इन प्राजेक्ट्स से हो रहे हैं, आप जनता को किस कीमत पर पहुंचा रहे हैं, इस सिलसिले में मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ और मिनिस्टर साहब का इस तरह ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। जहां तक बैटरमेंट लेवी का ताल्लुक है, इस हाउस में कई मैम्बर साहिबान मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान इस ओर दिला चुके हैं और उन्होंने कहा है कि जो दर बैटरमेंट लेवी की मुकर्रर हुई है, वह बहुत ज्यादा है। मैं आपके सामने इस सिलसिले में पंजाब का जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ। पंजाब में भाखड़ा डैम जो बन रहा है, वह एक बहुत शानदार प्राजेक्ट है और यह प्राजेक्ट ऐसा खयाल किया जाता है, कि दो तीन बरस में मुकम्मल हो जाएगी। लेकिन भाखड़ा डैम की नहरों से जो जमीन सैराब होगी, उस जमीन के मालिकों पर बड़ा भारी बैटरमेंट लेवी लगाया जा रहा है। जो रेट फिक्स किया गया है वह १८० रुपया पर एकड़ है और मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि बहुत से इलाकों में उस कीमत पर जमीन ही मिल सकती है। अभी इसकी बसूली वहां पर नहीं हुई और जब वह बसूली होगी तो आपको पता चलेगा कि उसके खिलाफ वहां पर कितनी रिजेंटमेंट होती है। जो फायदा आपने वहां की जनता को पहुंचाया है उसके लिये तो वह आपको शुक्रगुजार है लेकिन जो रेट Betterment Levy का आपने फिक्स किया है वह बहुत ही ज्यादा है।

दूसरी कमेटी जिस पर मैं इस मिनिस्ट्री को परखना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि जैसे जैसे

ये साधन (resources) डिबेलेज होते जाते हैं, उनका डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कैसे किया जाता है। भाखड़ा डैम के पानी को डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करने का ही सवाल लें लीजिये। आन्दरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब जानते होंगे कि यह भाखड़ा डैम ज़ास तौर से हरियाणा के खुपक इलाके को सैराब करने के लिये बनाया जा रहा है। यह स्कीम ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट के जमाने से चली आ रही है। सन् १९४६ के अन्दर इसको अमल में लाना शुरू किया गया। आजादी मिलने के बाद इसको बढ़ाया गया है और बाध की ऊंचाई को और ऊंचा किया गया है। लेकिन अब सवाल इसके पानी की तक्सीम का पैदा होता है। अब सवाल यह पैदा होता है कि हरियाणा के किस किस जिले को पानी दिया जाये और हरियाणा के अलावा आया पटियाले के इलाके का ही हक है, जालन्धर डिवीजन के इलाके का भी इसमें हक है या और किसी इलाके का भी हक है। मैं ने आपकी मिनिस्ट्री की १९४६-४७ की रिपोर्ट पढ़ी है और इसको पढ़ने के बाद मुझे तो ऐसा लगा है कि आपका ध्यान इस ओर नहीं है। डिबेलेज रिजोर्सिस को कैसे डिस्ट्रीब्यूट किया जाये, किस किस एरिया को कितना हिस्सा मिले, यह काम गालिबन आपने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स पर छोड़ रखा है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स इंसाफ करती हैं या नहीं, कैसे पानी को डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करती हैं, इस सिलसिले में हमारी सेंट्रल मिनिस्ट्री का ध्यान नहीं है। मैं उस बैकवर्ड एरिया से, उस अन्दर डिबेलेज एरिया से ताल्लुक रखता हूँ जहां के लोग कि पानी के लिये तड़पते रहते हैं और तड़प रहे हैं। रोहतक, हिसार, करनाल, गुड़गांव इत्यादि इलाकों के लोग हमेशा ही पानी के लिये तड़पते रहे हैं और इसके बरखिलाफ एक बह इलाका है जिस इलाके के कि ६०-७० फी सदी एरिया की पानी मिलता रहा है। हमारे इलाके में मुश्किल से १०-१५ परसेंट जमीन को ही पानी मिलता है। अब भाखड़ा की नहरें

बनी है लेकिन फिर उस इलाके को पानी मिल गया है जहां ६०-७० परसेंट जमीन को पहले ही मिल रहा था और उस इलाके के बहुत से जिले महकूम रह गये हैं जिन को कोई पानी नहीं मिल रहा था। यह कहां का इंसोफ है, यह मैं पूछना चाहता हूं। अगर कहीं बेइसाफी होती है तो इसका कारण मैं, समझता हूं, यह होता है कि पानी की तकसीम में हमारी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट दिलचस्पी नहीं लेती है या उतनी दिलचस्पी नहीं लेती है जितनी कि इसको लेनी चाहिये। इसी तरह से बिजली का सवाल है। एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि दिल्ली में बिजली की बढ़ी कमी है। झड़ी प्रजीब बात है कि दिल्ली में बिजली की कमी हो गई है। लेकिन मवाल यह पैदा होता है कि जो बिजली भावड़ा नंगल से पैदा की जाती है उसकी तकसीम कैसे हो। अगर दिल्ली में बिजली की कमी है तो दिल्ली के लिये बिजली का इंतजाम आप करे। लेकिन जो बिजली भाखड़ा से पैदा होती है और जिम की बहुत सस्त जकरत पजाब के उन इलाको में है जिन इलाकों में कि पहले कमी बिजली नहीं दी गई है, उनको पहले दी जानी चाहिये। आपने २०,००० किलोवाट बिजली दिल्ली को दी और अब ४०-५० हजार किलोवाट और बिजली देने की माग की जा रही है। आज हरियाणा के रोहतक, करनाल, हिसार, गुड़गांव इत्यादि जिलों को इडस्ट्रीज के लिये, कंज्यूमर्स के लिये, देहाती इलाको के लिये बिजली की आवश्यकता है और बिजली के लिये लोग तड़प रहे हैं। उन इलाको को पहले कमी बिजली नहीं दी गई। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि वाटर एंड पावर रिसेंसिस को जो हम डिबेलेप कर रहे हैं, अगर इनकी तकसीम मुनासिब ढंग से नहीं की जायेगी, तो यह एक बहुत गलत बात होगी। इससे जो रिजेंटमेंट पैदा होगी उसका आप आज भंदाजा नहीं लगा सकते। वैसे हमारी दूसरी पंच-वर्षीय योजना का यह एक बेसिक उसूल है

जहां हमने अपने साधनों का विकास करना है, जहां हमने अपने सिरोसिस को डिबेलेप करना है, वहां इन साधनों का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन भी सोशलस्टिक पैटर्न पर करना है। जो इलाके बैकवर्ड हैं, जो इलाके ग्रंजर डिबेलेप हैं, उन इलाकों की ओर हमें ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिये और जो पहले ही से डिबेलेप हैं, उनकी ओर हमें कम ध्यान देना है। जैसा कि यह रिपोर्ट जाहिर करती है अगर सेंट्रल मिनिस्ट्री इस ओर ध्यान नहीं करती तो फिर वे रिसेंसिस गलत तरीके से डिस्ट्री-ब्यूट होंगे और resentment बढ़ेगी। जैसा पंडित ठाकुर दाम जी ने कहा और एक माननीय सदस्य ने भी कहा कि उन इलाकों की जोकि हरियाना में हैं तादाद काफी है जिन को कि भाखड़ा डैम की नहरों से पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। गुड़गांव का सारा जिला है, झरमर की तहसील है, करनाल का इलाका है, पानीपत और करनाल की तहसीलें हैं जहां पानी की इंटेंसिटी मुश्किल से २०-२५ फीसदी होगी। ऐसी हालत में हम यह कैसे उम्मीद कर सकते हैं कि इन इलाको का सुधार हो। इन की जमीनें जरखेज हैं यहा का वा उत्पादन बढ़ बहुत सकता है। अगर इन इलाको को पानी दिया जाये और मैं समझता हू कि दिया जा सकता है, तो फिर कोई बजह नहीं है कि पजाब का यह इलाका सारे हिन्दुस्तान की ग्रैनरी न बन जाये। मैं इस बात को मानता हू कि हरियाणा के इलाके में सं २५ लाख एकड़ एरिया को पानी मिलेगा। १८ लाख एकड़ जमीन को हिसार में और ६ लाख उस इलाके को जहा से कि मैं चुना गया हू यानी कैथल को। इनके अलावा हरियाणा के बहुत से एरियाज ऐसे हैं जहा पर कि पानी की बहुत कमी है और उनको पानी दिया जाना चाहिये।

इस सिलसिले में मैं एक सजेशन माननीय मंत्री जी को देना चाहता हूं। आप ने सतलुज पर भाखड़ा का बांध तो बना दिया और उस के

[श्री मू० चं० जैन]

मैं निश्चयपूर्वक कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे बाकी इलाके को पानी दिया जा सकता है लेकिन अगर वहाँ से पानी नहीं दिया जा सकता तो जल्दी से जल्दी जमना पर बांध बांधा जा सकता है। इसका फायदा यह भी होगा कि जो हर साल सैलाब आते हैं और जिनसे दिल्ली और पिछले इलाके भी परेशान रहते हैं, हमारे करनाल, रोहतक, इत्यादि के जिले पानी के अभाव में परेशान हैं, उनसे निजात मिल जायेगी और पानी का भी एक बड़ा भारी स्टोरेज होगा जिससे हमारा सारा इलाका सैराब होगा और उत्तर प्रदेश के इलाके को भी फायदा पहुँचेगा और वहाँ के कुछ जिले भी सैराब हो सकेंगे। द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना में इस बांध के बनाने का जिक्र तो नहीं आया है और न इसका सर्वे हो रहा है लेकिन अगर इस पर गौर कर लिया जाये तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक अच्छी बात होगी। बहुत बार इस का जिक्र आया है, कि जहाँ जमना नदी मैदान में दाखिल होती है, वहाँ बांध बांधा जाये, इस प्रोजेक्ट पर जल्दी काम शुरू किया जावे।

सीसवी कसीटी जिस पर मैं इस मिनिस्टर के कामों को परखना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि आया जो रिसोर्सिज उपलब्ध किए गए हैं, उनका इस्तेमाल भी ठीक ढंग से हो रहा है या नहीं। डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, इस सिलसिले में मुझे बहुत अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जो रिसोर्सिज उपलब्ध किए गए हैं उनमें से केवल ३० प्रतिशत का ही इस्तेमाल हुआ है। यह बड़े अफसोस की बात है। मैं कौन से कारण हैं कि जिन के होते हुए जब पानी उपलब्ध कर दिया गया है तो उसका केवल ३० प्रतिशत ही इस्तेमाल में आया है और क्यो बाकी पानी का वे इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सके हैं। हमारे जितने भी रिसोर्सिज डेवलप हुए उन में से ३० फीसदी का इस्तेमाल हो, ४० फीसदी का इस्तेमाल हो या ५०

फीसदी का इस्तेमाल हो तो ऐसी बात क्यों हो। अगर सन् १९५६-५७ की रिपोर्ट को देखें तो आप पायेंगे कि मुस्ताफिक रिसोर्सिज के डेवलप करने के रास्ते में जो जो कठिनाइयाँ आई उनका इंतजाम करने की बात सीधी गई लेकिन उन रिसोर्सिज को डिस्ट्रीब्यूट कैसे करे और कैसे उनका यूटिलाइजेशन करे, इस की धोर क्याल नहीं किया गया है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का समय खत्म हो रहा है, वह अपनी बात जल्दी समाप्त करें।

श्री मू० चं० जैन : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ३, ४ मिनट समय और लूंगा और उस बीच मैं मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त कर दूंगा। ४ बजे के पहले मैं खत्म कर दूंगा जब कि मिनिस्टर साहब को आप बुलायेंगे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : ४ बजे तो मुझे एक और माननीय सदस्य को बुलाना है।

श्री मू० चं० जैन : मुझे बोलते हुए अभी केवल १० ही मिनट हुए हैं, ३-४५ पर मैं ने बोलना शुरू किया था।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : उसको तो छोड़िये, आपने ३-४५ पर नहीं बल्कि ३-४३ से बोलना शुरू किया था।

श्री मू० चं० जैन : सर जैसी आपकी आज्ञा हो। हाँ तो मैं कह रहा था कि इन रिसोर्सिज का इस्तेमाल और यूटिलाइजेशन क्यों कम हो रहा है और उसकी वजह यह है जैसा कि कल हमारे दोस्त पंडित ठाकुर दास भागव ने बतलाया था कि किस तरीके से एग्जाक्यूटिव इंजीनियर्स और जो नहर के मुहकमे के दूसरे जिम्मेदार अफसरान हैं उनके पास इस बात का रिप्रेजेटेशन पहुँचता

है कि कला Channel में सिल्ट प्रागया है या कोई पुराने रजवाहों की भरमत्त चाहते हैं लेकिन उनकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती और जैसे कि ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट में होता था कि जब तक नहर के अफसरान को रिक्वत न दो और खुश न करो तब तक काम नहीं होता था, वही चीज आज भी मौजूद है और जब तक कि कैनाल डिपार्टमेंट के बहुत से लोगों की मुट्ठी गरम न की जाय तब तक उनका काम नहीं किया जाता ।

यहा सबाल उठता है कि प्रो मोर फूड किया जाय क्योंकि हमारे देश को काफी गल्ले की जरूरत है । मयूरी में कान्फेस की जाती है जिस में यह फैसला किया जाता है कि कम्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स का सारा ध्यान 'Grow More Food' की ओर हो, जल्दी से जल्दी यह मुकम्मिल हो ताकि हमारे देश का प्रोडक्शन बढ़े । मैं सरकार को यह चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि यह सब बातें सिर्फ रिपोर्ट्स और कान्फेसेज तक ही सीमित रह जायेंगी अगर हमारे मुल्क के अफसरान का रवैय्या नहीं बदला और उन्होंने वही ब्यूरोक्रेटिक रवैय्या बनाये रक्खा जैसा कि ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट के समय में होता था । आज हम देखते हैं कि हमारे काश्तकार परेशान होकर काफी धरम तक इधर से उधर घूमते हैं लेकिन उनकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती और उनके आउटलेट्स ठीक नहीं किये जाते । वे कहते हैं कि आपने जो आउटलेट लगाया है वह नीची लेविल पर है और हमारा खेत ऊंची पर है या गलत जगह पर लगा है इसलिये उसको वहा से हटा कर सही जगह पर लगाया जाये लेकिन उसकी कोई पवाह नहीं की जाती है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि जहा इस रिपोर्ट में जिक्र आया है कि हमने अपने अफसरों को ट्रेनिंग दिलाने के लिये यह यह किया वहां कोई ऐसी भी व्यवस्था हो जिससे इन अफसरों को अपना पुराना बुडेन और ब्यूरोक्रेटिक रवैय्या बदलने की ट्रेनिंग दी जाय । इन नहर के

मुहकमे के अफसरान के लिए रिफेशर कोर्स आदि होना चाहिए ताकि वे सेवा की भावना के प्रोत प्रोत होकर जहा भी जनता को कठिनाई हो और जहां वे कुछ सबदीली चाहते हों, उसको दूर कर सकें और स्वयं जाकर उनकी शिकायतों को रफा कर सकें । मैं चाहता हूँ कि रिसोर्सज के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन और उनके प्रोपर यूटिलाइजेशन का इंतजाम किया जाय । इस ओर Central Ministry का ध्यान बहुत ही कम है ।

पन्ड्स के बारे में मैं कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कह सकता क्योंकि मेरा टाइम हो गया है । नजफगढ़ की झील का साल्जुक हमारे रोहतक और करनाल के जिलों से भी है । उस झील और नाले में सिल्ट होने से यहा दिल्ली के देहातों को तो नुकसान होता ही है बल्कि उसमें सिल्ट हो जाने के कारण रोहतक और करनाल के जिलों में बरसात के मौसम में पलड आ जाता है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसकी ओर जल्द से जल्द ध्यान दिया जाय ।

श्री पद्म देव (चम्बा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस दस साल की स्वतंत्रता के अर्से में अपने देश के नेताओं ने देश को प्रागे ले जाने में जो प्रयत्न किया वह सराहनीय है । इतने बड़े कामों में कही न कही कुछ कमियां रह ही जाती हैं और यह सही है कि उनकी ओर ध्यान दिलाया जाना चाहिए और ध्यान दिलाया जाता है और हर एक का ध्यान उनकी ओर आकर्षित भी हो जाता है और यथासभव उन स्वामियों को दूर करने की कोशिश भी की जाती है क्योंकि अगर ऐसा न किया गया और उस इनाके के लोगों की शिकायत दूर न की गई तो उस क्षेत्र से चुने जाने वाले सदस्यों का चुनाव खतरों में पड़ने का डर हो जाता है और बदनामी तो सब जगह हो ही जाती है और इसलिये वहां के लिए कुछ न कुछ होता ही रहता है और काफी हो भी रहा है लेकिन यह बात हर जगह के लिए नहीं कही जा सकती । जो इलाके

[श्री पद्म देव]

पिछले हुए हैं, जैसे हिमाचल प्रदेश का सीमावर्ती प्रान्त या इसी तरह के दूसरे इलाके जो कि सडको से दूर, लीडरो से दूर और हमारे विधेयको से दूर हैं, वहा पर अभी बहुत कुछ करने को है। मैं कृतप्न तो नहीं हू यह कहू कि बिबकुल वहा के लिये कुछ नहीं हो रहा लेकिन यह जरूर कहूंगा कि ग्रन्थ प्रान्तो की अपेक्षा वहा पर बहुत कम काम हुआ है। अगर भारत सरकार की नीति यह है कि देश को समान रूप से साथ आगे ले जाना है और उससे यह समझा जाय कि जो लगडा है और जिसकी दो टांगे हैं दोनो को समान रूप से बढ़ाना है तब तो जो वह समालता लाना चाहती है वह नहीं आ सकेगी क्योंकि अगर इस तरह से सबको बराबर नाप तौल करके विकास किया गया तो जो पीछे हैं और और लगडा लगडा कर चलते हैं वे अभी तेज चलने वाली के बराबर नहीं आ सकेंगे और उसका परिणाम यह होगा कि जो आगे है वह और आगे चला जायगा और आर्थिक विसमता जिसको हम समाप्त करना चाहते हैं वह खरम नहीं हो सकेगी।

मे हिमाचल प्रदेश मे आता हू जो एक पहाडी प्रदेश है। मैं इसमे इन्कार नहीं करता कि हिमाचल प्रदेश का भारत सरकार से पिछले पाच वर्षों मे काफी सहायता नहीं मिली लेकिन इतना मैं जरूर निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि वह अपर्याप्त है। हिमाचल प्रदेश और उस सरिखे। जतने पर्वतीय प्रान्त है वहा पर अनाज का हमेंगा अभाव बना रहना है। वहा पर बडी बडी नदिया हैं, नदियो से नहरे निकाली जा सकती हैं लेकिन इस बात से इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता कि वहा के लोग पानी के लिए भी तरसते हैं। नदिया बहुत नीचे चली गई हैं वहा के पहाडी की खोदती हुई और लोग ऊपर रह गये हैं। धाप अनुमान नहीं लगा सकेगे कि कुछ ग्रामों के लोग अपने अपने घरों से ४, ४ मील चलकर पीने का पानी लाते हैं। एक आदमी

घर से केवल इसी काम के लिये रक्खा हुआ होता है जो दिन भर पानी लाता रहे। धाप अन्दाजा नहीं लगा सकेगे कि कुछ इलाको में जहा ४ मील के फासले पर भी पानी नहीं मिलता, लोग बरसात के दिनों में गड्डों में जो पानी इकट्ठा हो जाता है, उसको पीने के काम में और पशुधों के काम में लाते हैं।

16 hrs.

मैं ने जैसे पहले निवेदन किया नदिया तो वहा पर है लेकिन उन नदियो का इस्तेमाल वहा के लोगों के भाग्य में नहीं है। कुछ लोग शायद ऐसा सोचते होंगे कि वहा नहरे बन ही नहीं सकती होंगी

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to bring it to the notice of the hon. Members that there are so many voices audible here to the Chair. It is supposed that members inside the House are listening to the hon Member who is speaking. At least it has to be supposed like that, it may not be the actual fact.

श्री पद्म देव चीनी तहमील मे एक ब्रकू नाम की नहर बहुत भ्रमें मे बन रही है लेकिन वह आज तक नहीं बन पाई। हिमाचल प्रदेश मे चीनी तहमील बादाम और पिस्ता पैदा करती है और वहा पर मेब, नासपाती, आर दूसरे अनेक फल होते हैं। लेकिन वहा पर पानी की बहुत कमी है। कई स्थानों मे नहर आ सकती है, वइयो में नहीं आ सकती। गरमियो मे वहा बारिश नहीं होती। सदियो मे बर्फ बहुत गिरनी है। तालाबों के जरिये से पानी इकट्ठा करके सिंचाई का काम किया जा सकता है; यदि कभी ऐसा मौका आये कि भारत वर्ष को बादाम, पिस्ता अमूर, अखरोट और इस किस्म के फलों की जरूरत हो तो साढ़े तीन हजार मुरब्बा मील का इलाका इस काम के लिये अच्छी तरह प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। लेकिन यह स्थान अभी सरकार के ध्यान में आ सकता है यदि कभी कभी हमारे केन्द्र के मंत्री लोग इन स्थानों की यात्रा

करें, वहाँ के लोगों के हालात को देखें, उस इलाके को देखें और फिर अनुमान करे कि वहाँ से क्या क्या चीजें प्राप्त हो सकती हैं।

हिमाचल में दो नदियाँ हैं सतलुज और एक और नदी जिस पर जोगेन्द्र नगर का पावर प्लांट बनाया गया है। केवल इन दो नदियों से इतनी बिजली उत्पन्न होती है। हिमाचल प्रदेश के अन्दर हर स्थान पर, हर गाँव में कोई न कोई छोटी बड़ी नदी है। हर नदी से बिजली तैयार की जा सकती है। वहाँ पर बड़े बड़े जंगल हैं और उनकी लकड़ी मौजूद है और वहाँ अनेक प्रकार के मिनरल्स हैं। वहाँ जो लकड़ी पैदा होती है वह नदियों के किनारे से नीचे पहुँचायी जाती है। यदि वहाँ पर बिजली का प्रबन्ध हो जाये तो बने बनाये मकान दिल्ली और दूसरे शहरों में धा सकने हैं इन चीजों की तरफ मोड़ा सा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। ऐसा करने से वहाँ के लोगों की मरीबी भी दूर हो सकती है और देश का जो फालतू रुपया खर्च होता है उसकी भी भासानी से बचत हो सकती है।

बैंसे भी यह स्थान सीमावर्ती होने से बड़ा महत्व रखता है और आप जानते ही हैं कि इन स्थानों में कई तरह की विचारधाराएँ चल रही हैं। अगर वहाँ के लोगों की दशा को न सुधारा जाये और इन इलाकों के प्राकृतिक साधनों का देश के लिये इस्तेमाल न किया जाये तो देश के लिए इसका अच्छा नतीजा पैदा नहीं हो सकता।

वहाँ का हाल यह है, आप अनुमान नहीं लगा सकते, कि अगर शिमला में अनाज का भाव दस रुपया मन है तो उसे चीनी में पहुँचाने में १५ नया भाडे का खर्च होता है। इसका मतलब यह होता है कि वहाँ पर २५ पये मन अनाज पहुँचेगा। अगर वहाँ पर नहरों का इन्तजाम ही तो जितना वहाँ के लोगों के लिए आवश्यक है उतना अनाज पैदा भासानी

से हो सकता है। हर साल हिमाचल के लिए अनाज की कमी महसूस होती है और केन्द्रीय सरकार को हमेशा इसके लिए कष्ट दिया जाता है। वहाँ की पानी की व्यवस्था भासमान पर ही निर्भर करती है। यदि वहाँ पर सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध किया जाये तो अन्न काफी पैदा हो जायेगा और जो भारत सरकार को फालतू रुपया अनाज की महंगाई के लिए देना पड़ता है वह नहीं देना पड़ेगा। वहाँ पर बड़ी जरूरत अन्न की है और वह तब तक पैदा नहीं किया जा सकता जब तक पानी का पूरा प्रबन्ध न हो। आप लोग हैरान होंगे कि हिमाचल में कुछ इलाके ऐसे हैं जहाँ पर लोग अपने लिए पूरी रोटी पैदा नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए सदियों में वह अपने बालबच्चों समेत शिमला या किमी दूसरी जगह पहुँच जाते हैं। वहाँ मजदूरी करते और रोटी कमाते हैं और जितनी बचत वे सदियों में करते हैं उसको खाने के लिए फिर अपने भरो को चले जाते हैं क्योंकि "जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि मयीयसी"। अपनी पीठ पर सामान उठाकर ले जाते हैं और घर में ले जाकर तीन चार महीने खाते हैं और उसके बाद फिर कमाने के लिये बाहर चले जाते हैं। इस ढंग से चीनी और बरमौर के इलाके में आवागमन लगा रहता है। इसलिए मैं इस माननीय सदन से और नबी जो से यह प्रार्थना करूँगा कि उस और भी जरूर ध्यान करे। भव्यपि यह इलाका पहाड़ों से ढका हुआ नरूर है, लेकिन भारत का अविभाज्य भाग है। उसकी ओर अवश्य ध्यान दिया जाये।

Shri S. K. Patil: Sir, I must begin with an expression of grateful thanks to the hon Members of the House for their very keen interest that they have demonstrated in this particular subject. As many as seventy cut motions have been moved and 28 speakers have spoken. If there was time, I am sure another twenty would have taken part. That only goes to show what keen interest all hon Members coming from various

[Shri S. K. Patil]

parts of India take in this important subject of irrigation and power, which is the very basis of our nation-building

Before I come to the details which every hon Member belonging to particular locality or State has unfolded, I do not want to be lost and bogged down in these details because thereby I may not give you a correct picture of the proposition, which, with your permission, I want to give to this House

The hon Members will realise that this is an experiment that we have been trying—I am talking centrally—in the last ten years and it is too early a time for a correct and complete assessment as to the success or otherwise of that experiment Therefore, before I come to those details, I would give you a bird's eye view in the form of an overall picture, as it appears to me, of the great effort that the country has been making during the last ten years and particularly during the six years and a quarter of the Plan period—five years of the First Plan and a year and a few months of the Second Plan This is particularly necessary for the proper assessment, as I said, if not appreciation of the great effort Let us, therefore, not make the mistake of missing the wood in the trees

When I come to the picture, I would draw the attention of the House to what I have styled as the river wealth of this country We have been talking of many wealths—mineral wealths, gold wealth, silver wealth Our river wealth is something of which as a nation we can be proud We have so many rivers and at places where we need them Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose established the theory that plants have life That apart, I do not know whether the rivers have got their lives or not But, sometimes, I am inclined to think that they have both a life and a soul They are much too alive, they are

not like other inanimate objects and therefore, they have a terrible impact in making the human lives as they are

We are so lucky that we have so many big and small rivers and when they move, sometimes they crawl, sometimes they meander and sometimes they jump into the gorges; all that happens, not because they like to do so or they are fickle-minded; they do it for the good of the community, for the good of humanity Had they not been so and had they not been meandering and moving and jumping into the gorges, you could not have got all the benefits that you derive from these rivers Sometimes they are a little angry when they are in floods and sometimes they show their teeth and you become frightened although it is for a short duration

Even floods are necessary sometimes Had there been no floods, the natural fertilisation would have been impossible Although floods are excessive and they cause damages—I know that and our annual damage from the floods is somewhere in the neighbourhood of Rs 45 crores, but even then—when you think of damage, you do not think of the good that they do, of the immense good that these rivers do

From ancient times, you will see that all our civilisations—not only in India but everywhere in the world—centred round the rivers Where would be the Middle-East and all these countries if Father Nile was not there? Where would our civilisation be if the Ganges, the Indus, the Brahmaputra and other rivers were not there? Therefore, we must be very grateful to providence that we are possessors of these great rivers, of this great river wealth which we are now exploiting to the good of the millions of our countrymen

When I give you this bird's eye-view—as I call it—I would tell you what all the things that we have done during the last five or six years and

what we intend to do during the Second Plan. There may perhaps be some repetition. Sometimes people quote figures and they are sometimes wrong figures. Not that I am quoting right figures but these are figures based on official estimates which after great pains we have collected together. They indicate what India will be at the end of ten years—that is, at the end of the Second Plan period.

This country was ahead of any other country in the world in the matter of irrigation. The hon. Members must realise that irrigation is not a new subject to India. If there was any country that was irrigated to the last point, India was. India was irrigated; even before our First Plan, you will find by comparison that we had the largest irrigation in the world. That irrigation that we had in India for the most part went over to our neighbour country; it was mostly in the North West and Punjab and seven-eighths of Punjab irrigation system went over to Pakistan. But, that is a different matter. Even with what is left, in the South and in other parts of India, we were leading in the matter of irrigation even before the First Plan began, we had 51·5 million acres of land under irrigation in various parts of the country, particularly in the North and the South.

At the close of the First Plan, the irrigated area was about 65·5 million acres. It rose by fourteen million acres by the major, minor and medium and every other type of irrigation—which necessarily includes irrigation that is not under the charge of this Ministry but that is under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. In my view, it is a very significant rise. It is a little less than thirty per cent over the pre-Plan period. During the Second Plan, we aim at bringing 21 million acres of land under irrigation. The total area under irrigation at the end of the Second Plan would be of the order of 86·5 million acres. That is about twenty per cent more than the first Plan and nearly 33 per cent

more than at the end of the First Plan.

This will be the most impressive performance, provided we are able to fulfil the targets that we have placed before us and there is no earthly reason why we should not fulfil those targets provided there is co-operation between the Centre and the States and provided you create sufficient enthusiasm and inspiration among the people. I am sure that it will be done and at the end of it we shall have 86·5 million acres brought under irrigation which will completely wipe out the food deficit. My definition of food sufficiency is this. Because in a particular year, we have got enough food, it is not food sufficiency. In 1953, we had almost a wide-fall. Because the season was good we had enough of food. But that is not enough. I should take the leanest year and if in that year we do not require any imports, I would call it food sufficiency. I would say that at least food worth about a hundred crores more than the actual needs of the country should be there in the leanest year. If that is to be achieved, I think 86·5 million acres will be a good target to aim at during the Second Plan period.

Now, Sir, We come to the problem of power. In power I could not say that we are a leading country; our country is in fact down below in the gradation. But in that also the performance is very impressive. In the ten years covering both the Plans, we shall be spending an amount of the order of Rs. 687 crores of which 260 crores were spent in the First Plan and Rs. 427 crores are provided for in the Second Plan. At the commencement of the First Plan, we had 2·3 million kws of electricity and during the course of the First Plan, we have added 1·01 million kws to bring the total to 3·31 kws at the beginning of the Second Plan. We have targeted to provide 3·5 million in the Second Five Year Plan, bringing the total quantum of electrical energy in this country to 6·81 million kwts. For a country struggling for

[Shri S. K. Patil]

finance, and with the difficulties that we have got, who dare say that this is not an impressive record? I congratulate all those who have been responsible and will be responsible for this. I have not the smallest doubt in my mind that we shall fulfil our target by the time the Second Five Year Plan is over.

The third thing that this Ministry looks after is the flood control. Floods are good sometimes and sometimes they have got to be controlled. We are very proud in this country that we have got the Himalayas, the tallest mountain with Mount Everest. Everywhere in the world they say that if there is anything that they want to see it is the Himalayas because it is the tallest mountain.

Shri Khushwaqt Rai (Kheri): Sir, I rise on a point of order. The hon. Minister should address the Chair and not his colleagues sitting beside him.

Shri S. K. Patil: I think, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you know it better than being pointed out by a Member of this House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When I am deprived of this privilege I will point it out.

Shri S. K. Patil: I was talking of Himalayas, before my hon. friend thought of interrupting me. Although it is very tall and is the tallest mountain in the world, the geologists say that it is an infant, and because it has got certain tricks of that infancy from which we suffer, one such thing is that all the rivers that flow from Himalayas carry with them silt and that silt has become a problem so far as irrigation is concerned.

It is not a thing that is new to this country. The silt problem and erosion problem to which references have been made by Members are problems of world importance; they are world problems, international problems and researches are being

made even in countries like America and China where similar problems exist, to find out how to reduce or minimise this silt problem. Therefore, we have got this difficulty. We want to overcome it. Because there is the silt problem or the erosion problem our proposals or projects would not stop.

With regard to this flood control for which we made provision particularly from 1954 on a rather big scale, we have taken over control of turbulent rivers under the National Plan, and up to 1954 funds provided in the First Five Year Plan were of the order of Rs. 17 crores. We could not spend that money. We spent Rs. 10 crores, because plans were not ready with the States as the money is spent by the States and projects are theirs although grants are allocated by the Centre. In the Second Five Year Plan we have allotted Rs. 60 crores for this purpose. The original programme was for Rs. 117 crores, but this had to be pruned and adjusted to Rs. 60 crores, because of the temporary financial difficulties through which we are passing.

Therefore, you see, Sir, that even in the matter of floods the Government is doing its best to see that all this loss of Rs. 45 crores annually should be minimised if not completely prevented. The results are coming, as I shall point out to you as to how because of the efforts that the Government have been making through these projects a certain percentage of flood danger has gone.

Now I come to the question of distribution of irrigation projects. People sometimes talk of big projects, because they are so very spectacular—the Bhakra, the Hirakud, the Damodar Valley and others. But there are hundreds of projects of irrigation and power spread all over the country. The big projects are very big; they are marvels of engineering. Bhakra, whenever I think of it, I feel we can

go on singing its praise all our life time. It is an engineering marvel of which any nation can be proud. Once I had occasion, a number of years back, to go and see the Boulder Dam and the Tennessee Valley. When I saw the Hoover Dam, as it is called, I thought to myself: "Oh! God, would there be a time in my country when our countrymen would also be able to have these engineering marvels and have a dam of that size and dimension?" I little knew that within these ten years that dream of mine would be realised. Here is a dam, one of the biggest indeed in the whole world, 760 feet from the lowest foundations, comparable with the Boulder Dam which is only 728 feet. I am not merely enjoying in the competition that we have passed the Boulder Dam. It so happens that we are even taller than the Boulder Dam and the Grand Coulee Dam which is only 500 feet. There is a Dam now coming in Switzerland, who want to beat us, called the Grand Dixance Dam. That Dam is not yet completed, but when completed it will be 940 feet. That, perhaps, is due to the fact that they have got the advantage of Alps, very very tall mountains where that kind of height is possible.

What I am telling you is, there have been miracles happening before our very eyes. Bhakra, as I said, is according to the new scientific and technical methods. When we look at it we must be proud of ourselves that we have been able to tackle a problem of this dimension as the Bhakra Dam gives us.

Where is the Dam like Hirakud? Go anywhere in the world and you will find that such an expansive scheme, where from one end to the other it is 16 miles—3 miles is the actual dam and about 13 miles of gaps we have filled in order to impound water—which you can drive in a car, and with impounding water of the expanse of nearly 300—288 to be exact—square miles, such a vast blue expanse of water available to you for

irrigation, for navigation, for fisheries or for any other purpose does not exist anywhere else. We are also producing power at Hirakud and some more power will be produced about 15 miles down the Dam.

Nagar Junasagar will be another very very fine Dam in which you can see the work that our engineers are carrying on, and possibly in a most economic manner. They are doing it at Krishna Barrage to which a reference has been made by my hon. friend there. I am not an engineer myself, but I have got a robust common sense to understand one thing from the other. Krishna Barrage has been constructed at the cheapest and most economically possible basis. When it is completed you will find that it will give us more per rupee than any other dam that will come up in the country.

The merits of these things are known to everybody, but there are other projects about which mention has been made by hon. members belonging to that particular territory as to what is to be done about them. The number of new irrigation projects during the Second Five Year Plan—I am not talking of Bhakra and other projects—is about 200 for irrigation and 182 for power bringing the total to 382 spread over all parts of the country. Of these, projects costing less than Rs 1 crore are 265—145 irrigation and 120 power, projects costing between Rs 1 crore and Rs. 5 crores are 79—33 irrigation and 46 power, projects costing between Rs 5 crores and Rs 10 crores are 17—10 irrigation and 7 power, projects costing between Rs 10 crores and Rs 30 crores are 16—8 for irrigation and 8 for power and the projects costing over Rs 30 crores are 5.

Now, this is a gigantic scheme, when you look at it, for a country like this, and if there are some mistakes here and there hon. Members will realise that we are very anxious to finish things as early as possible, and in that process we go on making some mistakes also. If the project is not start-

[Shri S. K. Patil]

ed, we are asked why the project is not started and immediately taken into hand. If the project has been started and some mistakes are committed, we are asked why those mistakes have occurred. Hon. Members will realise that we are not High Court Judges who will only look to the civil side of things. We must also see the other side. Where a pat is due, the pat must be given.

They referred to rural electrification. I agree that there must be rural electrification, and pretty fast too. In that we have not got a very convincing record to show, because from 3000 villages which were electrified before the First Five Year Plan began, at the end of the second year of the Second Plan we shall come to about 16,500 villages. There also, you will see that it is not a business of the Central Government; it is the business of the State Governments. We only give the money. Therefore, the initiative must come from the State Governments. If it comes I can assure my friend Shri Mathur that we shall do everything in our power to see that rural electrification, not merely for the showy side of it but also for the side of utility, is taken in hand and done as quickly as possible. The total number of towns and villages electrified during the First Five Year Plan was 2508. This works out at 76 per cent increase in the electrification of towns and villages. Transmission lines laid during the first Five Year Plan period were 19,000 and we propose to have 35,000 miles of transmission lines in the second Five Year Plan, bringing to a grand total of 54,000 miles of transmission lines during the Plan period. Continuous investigations, survey, research, public co-operation, have been seriously engaging the attention of the Government. The funds provided for these schemes during the second Five Year Plan period amount to nearly Rs. 10 crores, and they are merely for research and for things that are necessary and which are very basic indeed. So, the implementation of the Plan

should become very necessary, easy and successful.

Detailed hydrological investigations have started for all important rivers and they will be continued during the second Five Year Plan period. As I have already explained, the variety of rivers is tremendous. We do not know how the rivers flow. Therefore, continuous research has got to be made, and such a research is being conducted. Then a systematic power load survey on a national basis is being made. The establishment of a power engineering research institute is also under contemplation.

That brings me to what we have done for flood control particularly how much benefit these schemes have given us. That benefit, according to the statistics available to me since 1954, is as follows: 5,000 sq. miles in area were protected from inundation and 20 major towns and about 3,200 villages were protected. Embankments constructed since 1954 total 1,600 miles. The percentage reduction in flood risk, because of the major projects already constructed was as follows: DVC—61 per cent; we have reduced the flood risk to almost nothing. The remaining 39 per cent is not much of a risk. In the Gandhi Sagar Dam across the Chambal, it is 37 per cent. At Bhakra, it is 28 per cent. At Hirakud, it is 20 per cent. In Bihar there is the Kosi. That is a classical example of floods caused by silting. Though the embankments have afforded protection to a certain point, the ravage caused by the recent floods has been substantial. The reason for this is that the embankments are not complete. Some gaps have yet to be filled in. The villagers, it is said, feel that unless they get full compensation, they will not permit the embankments to be constructed. Our orthodoxy, our conservative nature, our way of life—all these factors come into operation, with the result that the speed with which we want to do these things is not attained. Therefore, if these Kosi vil-
lag-

ers are a little suffering today, they have to—perhaps it will be a bad expression—thank themselves. I am very sorry to say that they have not done at least a part of their work; whatever may be the compensation will be decided upon and we shall give them. But the stand taken by certain villagers that unless the quantum of that compensation is known, they are not going to proceed or allow us to proceed with the work is a position which is very untenable today. Therefore, I would ask—I would beg of the Members—who come from Bihar to realise the situation and see that they allow us to proceed. Ultimately, it is good to think of India as a whole. The 15 miles of embankment that remains to be completed should be finished and immediately we should concentrate on the barrage itself so that the river can be tamed just now.

I have never seen a river like that which takes liberty with everything that comes along and in any manner that it likes. Whatever it is, it is a very useful river. We can impound its waters and use it for power and irrigation. All that has got to be done. As I said, for all these projects, we intend spending about Rs. 1529 crores. This is only on the major projects which this Ministry deals with. Along with this sum of Rs. 1,529 crores in the two Plans, the States also are spending substantial amounts for minor irrigation works. Therefore, the total outlay on all these things during the ten years of the Plan period is something of the order of Rs. 2,000 crores. I have said that 70 per cent increase is expected to be achieved in irrigation at the end of the Second Plan period and there will be an increase which is almost treble, in the power potential of the country. I regard that as an increase of which any nation could be proud.

I can quite understand the hon. Members who were critical. But I would tell them that they do not

take the whole picture in view. When you look at the mosaic, you must look at the whole mosaic. Then you can understand the art and the brilliance of it. But if you analyse the mosaic thread by thread, you will find how ugly and imperfect it is. That is not the way how the mosaic has to be judged. All the efforts that the Government have been making are of the type of a mosaic which must be looked at as a whole. I am not merely romantically bringing the picture before your eyes. But it is a picture of which we should all be proud. Therefore, when you look at that, I can say that it is something of which everybody should be proud.

May I say without resorting to any exaggeration, one thing? Find out a single country anywhere—comparisons are invidious sometimes, but I do say this—where such progress has been attained in such a short time. I do say with honest pride which every Member of this House also possesses that during the last five or six years, or, until the end of the Plan period, the quantum of nation building activity of this country or this Government has been good, and at the end of the two Plan periods, what this Government would have achieved will be almost unparalleled in the world. No single country during a comparable period of time has done such good to millions of its countrymen as we have been able to do.

I do not wish to take the plaudit of the press or from anybody. But it is a fact; but in our anger sometimes and in our excitement sometimes and in our power politics sometimes, we say things, but we must not forget what good has been done to our country. We have a chain of Governments in this country. There are States; there are other Governments. Supposing they do something very good, I can assure them that I shall be the first man to compliment them. If the Government is bent upon the good of the people, then, what is real-

[Shri S. K. Patil]

ly sauce for the goose will also be sauce for the gander. If it is good, it is good all the way and all the while. Therefore, when you think of it, I say that we are indeed proud of the very excellent record of good work that we have been able to do.

This brings us to another important problem. We have achieved other things apart from the quantum of the irrigation and the electrical energy that we have produced. When these big problems were thought of, we thought how we could start them. "We have no money, no engineers; how are we to do it?" We were afraid whether we had sufficient engineering talents for the big plants like the Bhakra or the Hirakud. We then found that we had sufficient talents, and therefore, we proceeded and we got some engineers from outside. During the past six and a quarter years—I do not say it for the sake of saying and I do not indulge in idle praise—I have seen that the handling of this work has been fine. I am gratified, after personal experience and from what I have been seeing, at the jobs being done by our engineers, and I say that our country must be proud of these boys who have done this work. They have performed a miracle which you never expected of them. They have given their vitality, their enthusiasm and their devotion to the work and, above all, the self-confidence that has been created in them augurs well for the future. In any big jobs that we may undertake, no matter what its dimension, you need not take engineers from outside. You have engineers in your own land. Sometimes, people ask, "why do you bring engineers from outside?" I cannot understand this. I tell you, if we merely bring them because we have no engineers, it is wrong. But knowledge, whether it is technical knowledge, scientific knowledge, is universal. Knowledge has no stamp so that you can say that it has a particular border or be-

longs to a particular country. Knowledge is universal. If there is any engineer skilled in anything anywhere, it belongs to the whole universe. We are bringing those experts not because we have no experts, but for second opinion or third opinion. There is nothing wrong about it. I am looking for a gold letter day or a red-letter day when the Indian engineers will be invited by the progressive countries to give opinions on their plans. Why should we restrict ourselves? I cannot understand it. If we are right in a thing, our assurance can be doubly assured by bringing some others who can give us their opinion. Some asked, "Why is there the French engineer in Chambal?" and so on and so forth. When the French engineer came and said, "You are right", how much enthusiasm we get and how much self-confidence we get? Therefore, I say that although the engineers sometimes come from other countries, their number would be very small. Except for Bhakra and DVC, we have no foreign engineers anywhere. But whenever we want them, we take their opinion and in most cases, in nine out of ten cases, they have endorsed the opinion that our engineers have given. Whenever I go to see these projects and look into the lustrous eyes and faces of these engineers, the boys coming and talking to me, "We have done this; we propose to do that; we propose to generate electricity", when I hear that glorified "we" that stands for the nation, that stands for the self-confidence, for the determination and vitality which they possess, when I hear these words, how very happy I become! I get all the vitamins of life (Interruptions). Therefore, on my own behalf, on year behalf, on behalf of our countrymen, I convey our congratulations to this band of engineers, young and old, who have stood by, the country and done such miraculous work for the last 6½ years. I want more and more of them, for we are having more schemes to which I shall presently refer.

That brings me to some of the most important problems that the House has raised, otherwise also they are important. First of all, I take the canal waters dispute. Every Member of this House is naturally anxious that we want all this water, 10 million acre-feet, which we have been giving to Pakistan. We want this water very badly. I do not want to go into the whole story, but I shall say something about which much has not been said. Personally I believe, and perhaps the Government of India also believe, that so far as this canal water dispute is concerned, so far as the allocation of water between the two countries is concerned, either by any law, equity or by any standard, India is not bound to pay any single rupee to Pakistan.

Some Hon. Members' Hear, hear

Shri S. K. Patil: Now you cheer me. You think I am in a bellicose mood and I should be encouraged. It is not that. When these canals were built in united Punjab—not even united Punjab, it was united India—what was the idea? Punjab was the pioneer in irrigation and canals. The canals were built first in West Punjab, because the rivers were most powerful there, they have got 80 per cent of the waters—Indus, Jhelum and Chenab, as against the 20 per cent of the waters in Ravi, Beas and Sutlej. That is one thing. Besides, the united Punjab Government owned more lands in the western region and they thought they could realise crores of rupees by way of betterment levy. That was why on the western side, the canals were built first. Now, I would ask this question. Supposing there was no partition and Punjab was united, was it not the duty of the united Punjab to see that the eastern canals were also built? Because they got the canals first, they should have spent the money they got out of those canals in order to build canals in the east.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): In western Punjab, they

have not got betterment fee. The canals were built with Government money and no money has been charged from the cultivators. Here we are charging that fee.

Shri S. K. Patil: What they get or what they do not get is a different matter. I am merely giving the reasons. Surely we were under no obligation whatsoever to pay anything in order to help Pakistan to build those link canals, etc., in order to get these withdrawals from the western system of rivers. We were not bound to pay anything. Then, you may ask, "Why did you pay then?" We paid because we are a nation who believe in international goodwill. When this matter became an international matter, when the World Bank also gave its good offices and said, "Let us take this matter out of the vortex of politics, let us consider it on the technical and economic basis and if it becomes necessary, you will have to pay something for those link canals", we readily accepted it. You may ask, "why did you agree?" If we did not agree, possibly this matter would have gone on dragging for years and years. Therefore, we thought that we should buy the goodwill of those people.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Have you got goodwill from Pakistan or are you extravagant?

Shri S. K. Patil: We in India believe in unilateral good. My hon. friends should understand that whether the other man reacts or not, you should be good, you should not be bad even for a change, because the other man wants to be bad. Therefore, we took that decision. This is an old decision, I have not taken that decision. It was taken years back. We took the decision that so far as the historic withdrawals which Pakistan was getting from the three eastern rivers were concerned, they should be gradually replaced by the withdrawals from the western rivers, and that cannot be done automatically, unless link canals were built and if it was necessary, even a small reservoir could be built. When the

[Shri S. K. Patil]

1954 proposal of the World Bank was made, we readily accepted it, because we thought that if the World Bank, without any interest in politics, was doing something good, we should accept it.

More than that, there is another reason. It is not merely a question between Pakistan and India, but our people are suffering. They want water and therefore, if this thing is to go on and on for another ten or twenty years, our people would suffer. I may tell my friend, Shri Mathur, that this water is going to benefit particularly Rajasthan, the State from which he comes. I am most anxious to see that not only within my life-time, but within the short time of the second Five Year Plan, the Rajasthan canal becomes an accomplished fact and the Rajasthan people enjoy the benefits of irrigation and power. Therefore, both these things—Sirhind feeder and the Rajasthan canal—are in the immediate programme.

We have told Pakistan, we have told the World Bank, "We have waited long. You wanted us to wait for 5 years from 1954. Those five years will be completed in 1959. But nothing has been done during the last three years. But we have extended that period and given a final date. From now on we shall not wait for more than five years", because we are also today not ready to draw water from those canals. Sirhind feeder and the Rajasthan canal are going to be completed by that time. I can give this assurance to this House on behalf of the Indian Government that nothing will come in the way of having water in these canals as soon as these canals are ready for operation and for drawing water from the three eastern rivers. That is the position today.

As an hon. Member pointed out, this Rajasthan canal is going to be perhaps the longest canal in the world. Where is the canal, the length of which is 500 miles? It can be used for navigation also. He is putting

some ideas into my head, although it will cost more. Even as it is, it will cost Rs. 60 crores and if it is to be used for navigation, it may cost more. We do not want Rajasthan to be a desert any more. If this canal is built, perhaps a million acres will be irrigated. I do not know the exact acreage, but perhaps even 200,000 or 300,000 tons of foodgrains will be produced, which will not only look after Rajasthan, but other parts of India also. That is exactly the position in which the canal water dispute stands.

The World Bank representatives came to India now, and I have made reports to this House from time to time. They have made certain proposals and these proposals are not very much different from the 1954 proposals. If I may say so, they are a little more accurate and precise in the manner of their implementation. The main principle is accepted, namely, that the water in the three western rivers is for complete exploitation by Pakistan, except for the small historic withdrawals and minor future uses that we have got in Jammu and other places. They are negligibly small and Pakistan is not opposed to it. The three eastern rivers, Ravi, Sutlej and Beas, would be for India.

If that principle is accepted, then we go on to the second phase. Engineers sit together and find out as to how the replacement in the canals should be done. During the last few years, Pakistan, have built canals and spent Rs. 25 crores, although they have not taken much water for them. They are aware, perhaps, that India is as good or as bad as they are. Therefore, they are afraid that any moment India might stop withdrawals and they would be in difficulty. Therefore, they have done that, although they do not admit it and they have not come with a bill that so much has been spent. The canals that are built are capable of drawing 5 million acre-feet, half the quantum that they take from the eastern rivers. The problem is therefore not very difficult. The problem would be in very lean

months or the period when the water flow is not very strong and that raises the question of reservoir, etc

Some Members have said, you are soft-hearted and so on. Many epithets have been used. Is it wrong to be soft-hearted? Is it wrong to be soft-hearted even to your enemy? If one loses temper, is it necessary that we should also lose temper? A man who loses his temper, never gets his objective. India does not want to lose its object and so won't lose its temper in this matter. I can assure the House that things are now being precipitated. During the last three months, we have considerably progressed. God willing, we shall be able to solve this matter amicably, not from a political angle, but as I said on the economic and technical basis as the World Bank wants it to be done.

An Hon. Member: What about Ganga Barrage?

Shri S. K. Patil: I shall come one by one to Ganga Barrage.

The House must realise one thing. Whenever they talk of the responsibility of the Government of India, they little realise that Irrigation is not a subject under the control of the Central Government. Everybody comes and tells us, not only these big projects, but even small bunds should be taken up. In this Irrigation and Power Ministry, we do not touch anything which is less than Rs 10 lakhs. We are a great capitalist Ministry in the language of the other side. All our projects cost more than Rs 10 lakhs up to Rs 175 crores as in Bhakra. These are the projects that we look into. How do we come in? Ordinarily, do you mean to say that the States would have tolerated even for a minute the interference of the Government of India? They have got absolute rights because this is a State subject, not even a concurrent subject. Power is a concurrent subject, not Irrigation. We came in with our good offices like the World Bank. We say, look here, these are big projects of Rs. 175 crores and Rs. 100 crores;

you cannot do it, they are inter-state projects and they have got to be looked after by somebody bigger than the States. That is why the Government of India came in. We are using our good offices, giving them loans, guaranteeing their loans. If you tell me that if the Chief Minister of a particular place does not act in a correct manner, I must have a whip hand and do something about it, that is impossible. Even in law, it is impossible. They won't tolerate it for a day.

Many things have been said, why don't you do this or that. It is not in our power to do so. How we can do it, use our good offices, extend our good offices, smile a little more when they come and meet us and so on. That is all. We can't go more than that, or better than that. You will see there are these difficulties. In some cases, by some provisions of an Act, we can limit that power, provided the States agree, to a certain extent as we have done. Beyond that, we cannot go, we have no power. Even in regard to concurrent subjects, you cannot do anything without first taking the States into confidence. You find very often there are difficulties. Sometimes it is said, why a particular Chief Engineer or Superintending Engineer was not appointed for a year, why not do it here and now. If such a power existed, we will do it in a minute. That is not so. When a Chief Minister has got to be appointed, I have to see which.

An Hon. Member: Chief Engineer.

Shri S. K. Patil: I merely did not say Chief Engineer so that the analogy may not be complete. I have got to see which State is interested and what is the view of that State and whether they are going to quarrel. I write to one State, no reply. I write to another State, no reply. Then I write to both the States, no reply. Therefore, it is not really proper for me—I am not speaking for myself alone; my predecessors have been there—to come overnight and say, this Chief Minister has not replied. As it has very often happened, I can

[Shri S K Patil]

assure you, wherever there is delay, sometimes unpardonable, I admit, the delay is not due to any slackness on the part of the Central Government. The delay is due to the fact that between two States, the differences could not be compromised

I am telling you the facts Therefore, you need not expect me to do some miracle The miracles are there these dams and other things that we are making But, the miracle of having the States to do as we want is a more difficult miracle than even the construction of Bhakra On account of these difficulties, it is not always possible for us to go in the manner that hon Members have suggested

They ask, what about shortfalls in utilisation. I can understand the gravamen of that charge, very rightly made I am with you that really it is a matter of shame Somebody in power, in authority, who knows said that we had a potential of 63 million acres and out of that only 4 million were used and nearly one-third was not used. It is a matter of shame Because, we have been told and we have been believing that as soon as these irrigation facilities are available, they will be used, foodgrains will be grown, the deficit will go and the country will be flowing with milk and honey and all that kind of thing I can understand that This is a thing for which the Government alone are not responsible My hon friends are also equally responsible for that When I say, responsibility, I say so because I have got an appeal to make Remember, all these projects, when they are physically completed, the work is not complete, we are going to build a new society, a new India The habits of the people are different They are conservative They have other orthodox manners We have to take them out from their orthodoxy and get them to do something that we want in the larger interests of the country This problem is as gigantic as the building of the Bhakra dam

Therefore, what could have been done, what could be done even now is this. At the same moment when we turn the first sod of earth in any particular project, at that moment, your social services in that area must start This is the work of the political organisations, every organisation It is the work of everyone interested in social service to train the people and tell them, here, this project is coming, your land will be irrigated, you must be prepared for it Proper training has got to be given to the farmers who are going to be the beneficiaries of these Irrigation projects right from the beginning as to how they have to behave Their co-operation has got to be sought even in completing the projects They must be taken in hundreds and thousands to the site and shown the benefits that are going to accrue to them

There are farmers in the Punjab who know irrigation There are no difficulties There are some farmers in the south also But, in the Tungabhadra project, they have not behaved in a correct manner There are irrigation facilities there for more than half a century But, you cannot expect farmers everywhere with a similar mentality that they will take advantage of these facilities right from the time they are made available That does not happen We did not do it in the Tungabhadra project We have to remember that these canals naturally will go through arid deserts or waste lands The whole idea of having a canal or water is to make the land that is not culturable into culturable land Naturally, these canals go through areas where there are no human habitations In India, as everywhere else, you will find human habitations always cluster round water, round rivers Wherever there is a river or water, they live The people have got to be taken to these areas where the canals are going, where there are lands, and the lands have to be irrigated. That is a colossal task. It is the most difficult work that has got to be done. It can-

not be done through the instrumentality of the Government alone. The work has got to be done through many, many agencies indeed, and that is exactly what is needed. Therefore I would tell you that although the shortfall is there, and we are sorry for it, it is not a question that one party can say against the other party: "Who is responsible for that?". And they want an answer that the Minister is responsible or the Government is responsible for that. Not that I do not want the farmers to take advantage of the culturable land or the water, that was available, but because these factors have existed, and they have got to be resolved.

17 hrs.

That brings me to the question of the betterment levy as well as the water charges. What is this really, the betterment levy as you call it? My hon. friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava said that in Hissar District the levy is so big that the ryots cannot pay it. I can understand it. I take his word for it. If you want any co-ordinated betterment levy that could be followed everywhere, some kind of uniform system, I am prepared to examine that case and do accordingly, but the very principle of levy is this, that when you better the land, when you fertilise the land and when the price of the land—I am taking rough figures—goes from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 per acre, you have got that unearned income for which you have not worked of Rs. 400. Has not the State a right to have a part of that income? Therefore, out of the Rs. 400 we intercept and mop up a part. It is open to you to say that half of it should be mopped up or one-third or two-thirds. I can understand that. That would be a constructive suggestion. We shall examine this point that in the imposition of this levy, there shall be some kind of a uniform system, although the quantum may vary, because I saw in Andhra in the Circar districts area the price of one acre sometimes ranges from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. Of course

many years have gone by and I do not say we should levy for that, but do you remember that for a full period of 15 to 20 years they did not pay anything? Now, of course, they get the rich fruits of it. The difference is very great in that case, perhaps it has gone up from Rs. 100 to Rs. 10,000 but where you go from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 or Rs. 800 or Rs. 1,000 there should be same machinery to find out what is the betterment that has been effected in actual practice, and a part of it has got to be mopped up in the interests of the State and the stability of the national economy, and also to pay up the debts that we have incurred. If that is the proposition, I agree with my hon. friend that that question should be considered, but if he says that the farmers in Hissar District are not going to pay anything—I am sure he will not say that—then surely it becomes an impossible proposition.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: We perfectly agree and we want to pay.

Shri S. K. Patil: That brings me to the Damodar Valley. There you find last year we created irrigation facilities for 100,000 acres. Only 11,000 were used, not because it was the fault of the Government, ours or even the State Government, but because the people were not trained into it. If there is a good rain, why should people buy your water, and therefore they think they can do without it. All that training has got to be given because perennial cultivation must be done, because in the larger interests of the country we should not depend upon any other country for our food and other requirements. That can only be done, as I said, by very efficient social services rendered from the very beginning.

This year we have got facility for 200,000 acres, and the Chief Minister thought that possibly nobody would take it. Therefore for this year he has made it free in order that the people should get accustomed to the use of water, and when they are used to that....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): The people are accustomed, but the charges are high, so they refuse to take that water.

Shri S. K. Patil: I can assure the hon. Member that we are considering that aspect of it also, so that we shall have some graded charge. I do not mind even if it is free for one year or two years, but have a graded charge so that at the end of five years or six years, whatever is the stipulated period, we give the quantum of water on which the maintenance and the other charges could be had, because there is no question of making any profit there.

Some people will ask: supposing you do not get the money, is the country going to starve because the farmers do not pay the charges? To them I say this: this country does not believe in some other methods by which it can be done. But the fact that we must produce more food, and for that reason more land should be brought under cultivation remains a fact from which we cannot run away. Therefore, this has got to be done. We are examining the proposition in a manner that some kind of unified, scientific and co-ordinated method could be evolved out of it.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): This could have been and should have been done two years ago when the water was available.

Shri S. K. Patil: We would have been much wiser men if we had not committed the mistakes that we committed in our childhood, but when we learn that mistakes are there, there is enough time to improve upon it and do something.

Shri A. C. Guha: I hope the Government is not a child.

Shri S. K. Patil: Government is also a child only ten years old. I can understand the anxiety of hon. Members. Everybody's anxiety is: get things done as quickly as possible, but commit no mistake whatsoever. You

must be a perfect swimmer but without going into the water. How that miracle is going to be performed, I do not understand. Therefore, there must be something half and half. We must be prepared to take some risk and go into the water and puddle about until we become perfect swimmers like the Bengalis and cross the Channel or something like that. This way we have got to proceed.

There were other reasons also why this land utilisation was not complete. The time of the completion of the canals and the distribution did not synchronise. Sometimes the canal water is there, but the canal is not there; sometimes the canal is there, but the water is not there. That mistake was committed. There was also the inertia on the part of the farmers in adapting themselves to the new scientific methods.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It is a wrong charge on the farmer.

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not call it inertia—do-nothingness or something else. I am not making a charge.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): They want the water, but the charges are too high.

Shri S. K. Patil: If it is merely high charges, we shall see what happens as soon as we have some kind of a unified process. If it is a wrong charge, I shall be sorry and I shall apologise to them. After all, the farmers are the wealth of this country. Nobody would like to disrespect them. It is not their mistake. You have seen in the case of fertilisers also. Although it is good, the people have to be taught how to use them, when to use them.

That brings me to another proposition, which is entirely new. I have not yet consulted my Ministry or the Government about it. How does a farmer in the village know what is called farming? After all, agriculture also is an art. It must be studied and worshipped as an art. A farmer does not become a farmer in a day.

You and I cannot take to farming because we have decided that tomorrow we will take to farming. If the farmer has to be trained in scientific methods, some kind of help must be given to him to train him. What is the help that the Government or anybody gives him now? To my knowledge there is no help whatsoever. He does not know what to use, what fertiliser to use, if there is a pest how to remove it, when to sow and when to reap. They know it by instinct, but that is a different matter, but this new problem has come, perennial irrigation for 12 months, fertilisers and other things. These scientific methods require training.

So far as farming and agriculture is concerned, in the USA and possibly in other countries too, there is a system that for every group of villages with a certain population, there is an agricultural adviser appointed by the Government. He is a kind of encyclopaedia to the people there. He is so good and popular, that whenever in difficulty the farmer comes to him and asks when to do and how to do a thing, how to remove a pest if there is one, what fertiliser is to be used, and gets the benefit of research if there is anything wrong with the soil. We have research stations, but how many farmers know that they have to walk to the research station in order to find out what is wrong with the soil. I cannot blame them. I can blame myself that we have not created facilities. These essential and primary, elementary I would say, facilities should be made available to every farmer at his doorstep. Some such system has got to be devised by which along with the new facilities that we are offering to the peasant, we also offer them the requisite training and education, both going side by side. This is a proposition which is worth considering indeed.

This brings me to a few other things. It was asked: what about economy and efficiency measures. I will not go very extensively into that but we are doing our best. We have now realised that the efficiency quoti-

ent is a bit small, it must go up, and many things have got to be done, but remember, friends, to us also it is a new experience. Five years, six years is not a great experience in agriculture. Whenever we notice trends or habits, we try to attack them in our own manner. That is being done. I will merely enumerate some things that we have been doing just now in order that efficiency and economy measures may be strengthened.

Take, for instance, the question of cost control. We have a special unit for this purpose. The cost in every unit is found out, so that we can compare and contrast and see what is going wrong. Then, there is a separate cost accounting unit. There are seminars for engineers also. Our engineers go to the foreign countries, and foreign engineers come here. And seminars are being held where every type of problem is discussed. Next, there is the question of the optimum utilisation of machinery. Yesterday, my hon. colleague told you how we are doing it by transferring machinery from one project to another and so on. But there also, we are facing troubles and difficulties. And here, I want your co-operation. Even when the machinery is to be transferred, the State Government sit tight over it, and they do not allow the transfer. They have sometimes to be cajoled; we have no power to compel them. We can only effect the transfer with the permission of the State Government, and with the concurrence of the State Government. I am merely saying this, because you are all powerful people here with undoubted influence over your State Governments; why should you not utilise that influence for the national good, so that the development of our machinery should be a successful proposition.

As for standardisation of machinery, technical scrutiny of projects etc., there is the advisory committee of the Planning Commission and so on.

[Shri S. K. Patil]

Then, there was the question of water rates and the betterment charges. I have already replied to that point. Now, I come to the electric grid. People said here, 'Why not create water zones?'. Before I come to the water zones, let me deal with the electric zones first. Hon. Members suggested 'Why not have a zone in the south, a zone in the north and so on?' I can assure this House that we want not only the zonal idea to be there, but we want an electric grid for the whole country, and to that end we are working.

So far as Mysore is concerned, it is rich in electricity. Madras is also coming up in this regard, but it is not so in the case of Andhra Pradesh, because only the other day, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh complained that they had only 10 k.w. per capita consumption, while Madras had got 30 k.w. and Mysore 50 k.w. Surely, 50 k.w. and 30 k.w. and 10 k.w. added together will make 90 k.w. For these three States put together, the per capita consumption will be the mean of these figures and that will be what obtains in Madras. I am not saying that we should merely distribute what we have got in these States, but I am saying that the electric power potential has got to be strengthened. When this is done in the south, when this is done in the north, and so on and so forth, as we are doing everywhere, in the Rihand Dam, in the Bhakra-Dam and so on, why should we not have these things connected in a common grid, so that the entire country could be linked together in an all-India or national grid.

So far as the water zone is concerned, it need not give any trouble; it does not require a zone for the purpose in view. I was rather surprised that people should come and say that some other State does not give them water, although that water would otherwise go waste. Yesterday one hon. Member said that the waters of some of the rivers in Kerala were really going to waste. Surely, we shall look into

this matter; we are prepared to examine that problem. If out of the Kerala State, the waters that go to waste could somehow or other be utilised for the purposes of the Madras State, we shall be only too pleased to do so, and to use our good offices, because I may tell you, in law, we have nothing but good offices. We shall use them both with the Kerala and the Madras Governments, and I am sure the good Government of Kerala will listen to me when such a constructive approach is made to them.

I now come to the tariff in regard to electricity. People say that tariff is sometimes very heavy. You know that we are governed by the Electricity Act. The Electricity Act does not allow us to go beyond six per cent., and as we have seen, that is about two per cent. above the bank rate. Otherwise, it would have been 5½ per cent. Therefore, we could not go beyond that. If there are private companies where no facilities exist, where thermal electricity has got to be produced, and if the rate is a little higher, we cannot tell them to bring it down to 5½ per cent., because they will place their books before us and convince us that it is not possible. But when the grid system comes into existence, all these things will disappear.

My hon. friend Shrimati Renu Chakravarty made a particular reference to the electricity that has been taken from the D.V.C. by the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation. She said that this was a wealthy company, and she asked why the power had been given to that company. I can tell you that because it is an old company, perhaps it has been given the power; however, that is a matter for the State Government; the Government of India have not interfered in the matter.

So far as the electricity charges are concerned, I can assure the House that the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation gets, out of the electricity supplied from the D.V.C., only about

10 per cent. of the total quantum of what they have; as 90 per cent. of their electricity, they get it from elsewhere.

If you compare the prices, you will find that while we sell Damodar electricity at the rate of .45 anna per unit, the electricity which they get otherwise is at the rate of .35 anna per unit. That means that we sell them even at a higher cost than what they have to pay for electricity from elsewhere. Therefore, the charge that we are selling them cheaper is not really sustainable. Indeed, in these matters, if there are any difficulties, difficulties that are due to the fact that it is at a far-flung place that the electricity has been produced and therefore, the charges are a little higher, the moment that is brought to our notice, we shall try to see that they are in conformity with the minimum of profit that could be allowed under the Act.

As regards soil conservation, a matter which was touched by one or two Members, I could tell them that it is really our biggest headache. All these projects of ours after 20, 30 or 40 years will be simply out of use if we do not do soil conservation and soil consolidation in a scientific and precise a manner as we can. This is not a problem of India alone. This is a problem present everywhere in the world. Even in the United States, even in China, this problem exists in a very acute form. How are we going to solve it? In Hazaribagh, there is a station where soil conservation experiments are being carried on. I was so gratified to see what they were doing. How are they doing it? They are doing it in a wonderful manner. It is not merely done by the government farm; even private farms can profit by what is being done so that soil is conserved and consolidated.

All the knowledge about contour bunds and other things—these have become so scientific now—is available from any other country where soil conservation is being done. We meet them and we take advantage of what they have achieved. This matter

is discussed in seminars, big international conferences and so on so that the best methods that are available for the consolidation and conservation of soil should be available to us. In this connection, I made a mention of the Hazaribagh station where we are conducting experiments.

A reference was made to Sunderbans. I take it out from the speech of the hon. Member for the simple reason that I share her anxieties 100 per cent in respect of the protection of the Sunderbans area. It is a beautiful rice bowl of not only Bengal but of India. I would beg of my Bengali friends to eat a little less rice so that more rice may be available to others. We shall also do something for Sunderbans. Those zamindars who owned those lands were spending a colossal sum—crores of rupees—for embankments etc. We have now taken away those zamindaris and we have become zamindars ourselves—the Government of India. But we are not doing that work which they were doing. Therefore, we have got to have a scheme, and that is engaging our attention, so that such a beautiful place, the Sunderbans, the rice bowl, is protected. We shall protect it in every manner possible. Therefore, as I said, it is actively engaging our attention.

This brings me to one more important question, that is the Gandak river and the Kosi river. I particularly mention it because it has been referred to by some hon. Members, particularly by hon. friend, Pandit D. N. Tiwary. He pointed out that the Gandak is a very nice river. I do not want this testimony. I can assure the House that there is universal testimony that so far as the Gandak project is concerned, it is the best project in India. It will be the most economical project. Gandak is a very very nice river. Indeed, she is a sort of a docile milch cow giving all the milk to anybody and kicking nobody. There are no spate and floods. Therefore, it is wrong to intercept such a river....

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Kesaria): The unfortunate position is that still it is not being done.

Shri S. K. Patil: That is true. Because it is so very sacred, we are very cautious about catching it and doing all that damage by intercepting it.

But I can tell him one thing. The moment I saw with my own eyes the destruction that the Kosi was really causing, I came to the conclusion that the solution of the North Bihar problem was not the Kosi project but the Kosi plus Gandak put together. One is destructive and the other is constructive. The Kosi is destructive in a manner that we must stop the destruction. If we do not stop it, it will devastate the land. What is the use of irrigating millions of acres of land and allowing the land which is already irrigated to go waste because of the silt?

The Kosi is a whimsical river and she wants to go anywhere she likes; she does not require any permission or licence. She is beyond the pale of law, our law or any law whatever.

Therefore, it is a twin problem. We have got to tackle it as a twin problem. We should stop the destruction caused by Kosi North Bihar and use Gandak for doing the construction of two or more million acres of irrigated land. That is the problem. It is not that it is very difficult, but there are some difficulties. I may take my hon. friend into confidence and tell him that this also requires the concurrence of the Nepal Government. These rivers are very funny international rivers. They do not know national boundaries; they have no nationalism about them. Therefore, they begin from somewhere, go somewhere and there is no relevance whatsoever, just as the Godavari and Krishna benefit the people of the South and the Andhras—they are reaping the fruits—though these rivers start from the State of Bombay, Maharashtra. They do not give us a spoon of water in Maharashtra. They get all the water and become fatter and

fatter as they go down below and they give all the facilities of irrigation or power to the south. I am not jealous of Andhra. Never. We look after these rivers for 200 or 300 miles. I may give a simile. It is just like a daughter being brought up, being looked after and educated and when she marries she goes somewhere. The same is the case with these rivers. They have married and gone somewhere. It is the parental duty. Maharashtra has given rise to these rivers and the whole benefit has gone to other parts. What I am saying is that we shall do everything in our power to see that all these things are viewed in the Indian aspect, in the national aspect and not in the aspect of any particular State. We shall bear that in mind and do something about it.

I have not touched some of the points that hon. Members have raised. I have noted down all those points but it is physically impossible for me to refer to everything that they have said. I have got my eye on the watch.

This brings me to a very serious thing which Shrimati Renu Chakravarty said, about the D. V. C. and other points. I may tell the hon. Member that apart from anything that she says, I am contemplating in the nearest future, perhaps in a month or two or the latest within three months, to change the whole set-up, a change not because there are any scandals but because 80 per cent of the work except the Fanchet Hill is finished and we do not require this costly machinery of these 3 Members and their other paraphernalia.

Therefore, when we find that these charges are again and again repeated—I have all my sympathies for all these Members—what can I do? You put yourselves in my shoes and consider this question. I have tried to do things in the best manner for I am at the helm of affairs so far as this Ministry is concerned. These charges are grave if they are true. But, where are they made. They are only made in the columns of newspapers. Not a single honest man or woman

in Bengal had that much courage—man also includes woman but I have also said it to emphasise—to make the charge to us and say that they have got a proof and they can prove them. We have got to read them either from Yugantar or any other paper; we have to enquire into it and we have to collect whatever evidence we can gather. If I do not come to the *prima facie* conclusion that there is no *prima facie* case made out, what would she advise me to do?

There is another aspect. I agree with the hon. Members of this House that corruption must be rooted out. Corruption is not in one department; something is rotten about our national character. Go anywhere and you will find corruption. I am not happy about it. I am not merely saying it. I hold no brief for any corrupt man. What I am saying is, if the national character becomes rotten, there shall be corruption everywhere. My duty and your duty is not to enthuse when there are some examples of corruption but do our best to see that the national character improves and there is lesser and lesser corruption. Everything should be done to root out corruption.

With all that, there is a responsibility that I have got as the head of the administration in the Irrigation and Power Department. Are the officers working under us not entitled to protection of their honesty and integrity? Can any organisation in this world go even for a day if every time any little thing occurs I dismiss or suspend that officer because in some newspaper somewhere a charge is made?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: But if certain charges are made against them by the Public Accounts Committee itself, then they will become really serious charges.

Shri S. K. Patil: My hon. friend knows that I read the report of the Public Accounts Committee. What she says is wrong or her information is wrong. These charges have not been

made. If they were made, surely they form an accusation of the first magnitude and they would be gone into. I can very well illustrate one or two points.

One of these charges is that a T.A. Bill of Rs. 63-4-0 has been made by an officer. These officers and even Ministers do not make their own T.A. bills. It is being done by their P.As. Sometimes mistakes are made. An officer made that mistake. Again and again this is brought up even after this explanation is given. So, I must hang that officer.

Reference was made to 27 boats and eight engines which were bought for Rs. 70,000 without the permission of the financial adviser. My hon. friend, Shrimati Renu Chakravartty will be glad to know that I have gone thoroughly into that case. I say that if I were in the position of that officer, I would have bought them. It is a good deal that he has done. And what did the financial adviser say? He did not say that the price was big. Why did you buy it all together? That is what he asked. You can buy a few and as soon as the other parts are ready then you can purchase the rest. That is what he said. It is for them and it was left to the Board to do whatever they like.

My information is this. Somebody wanted to sell. He is not a retail vendor who is selling bits. He has got an established company and he says: here is this thing; you accept them if you want. It is a deal that you have got to accept or reject them altogether. He bought those 35 units at a cost of Rs. 70,000. It means Rs. 2,000 a piece. You cannot even buy an ordinary barge, much less an electric launch, for Rs. 2,000. It is not as if there is some great thing, something very wrong that has happened.

Then, an officer went to Srinagar and spent Rs. 1,000. That was the charge. Well. He is invited by the Seminar that was held there and he goes there in that capacity. The mere travelling bill of an officer like that comes to that much. Is it his fault?

[Shri S K Patil]

If there is even a *prima facie* case for examination, then there is something there is none and there is very little evidence. Then why challenge the integrity and honesty of my officer? If on such grounds they are to be challenged, the administration will become impossible if I become so reckless. (Interruptions)

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Have you called for the evidence?

Shri S. K. Patil: Where am I to call? When I go to any place, everybody knows that I am there. Many people came and saw me and they asked me, 'Have you read all that?' I have got great respect for that paper and it has been doing patriotic service and I am not against it but the opinion may be sometimes wrong, it may be tendentious and there may be other factors which are responsible for that kind of a thing.

When we are changing the entire stage, not for this reason but for other reasons, we should not waste our time in an enquiry of this description.

Shri Kasliwal referred to Chambal and Kotah Barrage. I have replied why second opinion was taken.

There is one point. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava may be interested in that. He referred to the non-availability of electricity and he wanted electricity in a particular place. I have got that matter in hand. It is not our mistake. It is the old PEPSU Government that allocated all the electricity that was available and some trouble has come. But, even then he need not be very restive. We are doing our best to see that this is done.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I want water for that area.

Shri S. K. Patil. We shall try to give both water and electricity. He wants one thing and I give double.

That brings me to the territory most discussed—Delhi. Some people say why there is not more power and so on. Mention was made about the power set apart—about 110 thousand

kWs. We want to bring in 80,000 kWs in all from Bhakra Nangal and 30,000 kWs a steam plant to be obtained under T.C.M. aid. I am very grateful to the T.C.M. for making this possible. Then, there is some 20,000 kWs from the diesel engines. Apart from that, I know that the immediate need also is 20,000 or 30,000 kWs more. You do not know how the power needs of this country are developing. Wherever you [have something and power energy is created, it is distributed. It is not like irrigation. Immediately the money also comes. Therefore, we must seriously think as to what is to be done about Delhi so that the people of the capital—sometimes they are very garrulous and they have got the help of the newspapers and I must guard my Government against that—may get it. I am doing my best so that adequate quantity of power could be made available to Delhi as early as possible.

Somebody said, why not have irrigation and other things. I want to tell you that I cannot take this narrow view that because we are in charge of irrigation we have nothing to do with water supply and so on. Normally it is so. Technically it is so. India is one and indivisible. Nationhood is one. If the capital suffers for want of water and other things, surely it is our duty to do something. I do not know how exactly I will act, but our Ministry is very very seriously considering whether some water may not be available even to the city of Delhi so that Delhi's water supply would be adequate, and many difficulties which the people of Delhi suffer for paucity of water will not be there. They will not have to suffer all these things. All these things are being looked into and as early as possible we shall do it, although I have no ready-made plan just now.

That, Sir, almost brings me to an end. There may be many other questions.

Shri A. C. Guba: Ganga Barrage still remains

Shri S. K. Patil: I will dispose of Ganga Barrage in one minute, because Ganga Barrage problem is not a very big problem. It is under the active consideration. If I do not go on trumpeting it from the house-tops, I have always said so in my reply to questions. It is not merely for the pleasure of assuring you that I will do something. That Barrage is under active consideration. Investigations are going on. We know there are difficulties but we will try to overcome them. Hon. Members should not be impatient. In D.V.C. we are giving you the best project. That would be to the benefit of Bengal. The other day I went to Taki and Basirhat because my hon. friend called me. We are not only considering, we shall positively do something. Their little town, Farakka, to which he referred as the citadel of civilisation, will be protected. That requires a little time. I am quite sure my hon. friend may not draw me into a full discussion as to what we are going to do about Ganga Barrage. I can assure my friend that it will be actively looked into.

May I just end by saying that our problems are many and if you want to tackle in a single generation all those problems even Rs. 10,000 crores would not do. For most of the kind expressions, from the same men here and there we have heard some ridicule and criticism. The debate was very level headed and of a high standard. I am happy about that, not that we have done a very great performance, but we have done our duty. I will end in the words of the ex-Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill. When he was asked to reply to an honour that was done to him in France he ended his reply by saying:

"The greatest happiness in life is the consciousness of a duty well done."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will now dispose of the cut motions.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: During the earlier part of his speech the hon. Minister said that he will tell us something about rural electrification.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I suppose we will have another opportunity of listening to the hon. Minister.

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 sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of the following heads of demands entered in the second column thereof:—

Demands Nos. 67, 68, 69, 122 and 123

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 & POWER

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,000 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, 1958, in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation & Power'".

DEMAND NO. 68—MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 93,53,000 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, 1958, in respect of 'Multi-purpose River Schemes'".

DEMAND NO. 69—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 57,21,000 be granted to the Presi-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

dent 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, 1958, in respect of Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'".

**DEMAND No. 122—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,17,63,000 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, 1958, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes'".

•

**DEMAND No. 123—OTHER CAPITAL OUT-
LAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION
& POWER**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 55,34,000 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, 1958, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation & Power'".

17 35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 2nd August, 1957.