

anxious to improve trade, particularly border trade, with India and suggested that the Chief Secretaries of Assam and East Pakistan should meet to discuss border trade without waiting for the Indo-Pakistan Trade Review Conference between the Governments of India and Pakistan. The State Government not sure whether the High Commissioner meant business particularly in view of the exactly opposite policy followed by his Government, referred the High Commissioner's suggestion to us. After consulting the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, we requested the Government of Assam to accept the High Commissioner's suggestion for a Chief Secretaries' Conference on border trade provided the Chief Secretaries of West Bengal and Tripura also participated in the proposed conference. After the Governments of West Bengal and Tripura had agreed to our suggestion, the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, wrote to the Government of East Pakistan on 5th December, 1958, welcoming the High Commissioner's suggestion in a formal manner and leaving it to the Government of East Pakistan to suggest the date and venue for the meeting. No reply from the Government of East Pakistan was received to this letter for over two months, although there were periodical reports in the Pakistani Press that Pakistan was anxious to improve trade relations with India. On 9th February, 1958, the Chief Secretary, Government of East Pakistan, however, informed the Government of Assam that a meeting of Chief Secretaries to discuss the question of border trade was not necessary and that border trade was a part of the general trade agreement between Pakistan and India.

Apart from the above, there were news items in the East Pakistani Press during December, 1958, and January, 1958, that Pakistan intended to send a delegation consisting of three representatives of the local Chamber of

Commerce in East Pakistan to neighbouring States in India. On attempts by the First Secretary (Commerce) at Karachi to verify the truth of these newspaper stories, it was invariably discovered that the Government of Pakistan had no such proposals before them.

According to Article IX of the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement (1957-60), there has to be a six monthly review of the working of the Trade Agreement. The last review took place in a Conference at Karachi in December, 1957. Since then, several approaches have been made to the Government of Pakistan for a Trade Agreement Review Conference at Delhi but no such Conference has yet been held. Our Ministry of Commerce and Industry have been anxious to hold the Review Conference which has been overdue since July, 1958.

The Government of East Pakistan which showed great keenness to have a Chief Secretaries' meeting to discuss border trade arrangements have obviously not been able to convince the Pakistan Government at Karachi about the urgency of this problem and the latter do not seem to be keen to have an early conference to review the Trade Agreement of which the border trade arrangements are a part.

12.25 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 64, 65, 66, 125 and 126 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power for which six hours have been allotted.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Hon. Members desirous of moving out motions may hand over at the Table within fifteen minutes the numbers of the selected cut motions. I shall treat them as moved, if the hon. Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the motions are otherwise in order.

So far as this is concerned, the hon. Members will agree that there cannot be any politics so far as Irrigation and Power is concerned. I would like them to eschew all politics and I would also like to give opportunities to every State. Each State must be represented in the first turn, second turn and so on. There are also persons who claim to speak on account of the fact that they are so many in numbers and so on. I shall try to accommodate them also as far as possible. But they must also yield to the others. Sometimes some States are not at all represented. There are fourteen States and then there are Union Territories also. I shall try to distribute the chances. But hon. Members should also place themselves in my position. If I do not call every one from the same State but try to call other hon. Members, it is because opportunities should be given to all. After all the other speaker is a friend and neighbour.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): When the Canal Water Dispute comes in will there be no politics? (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: I meant to say that I did not want any politics as between hon. Members here. That is all—not other politics. Motion moved.

DEMAND No 64—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,29,000 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, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

425 (A) LSD—4

DEMAND No. 65—MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,75,42,000 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, 1960, in respect of 'Multi-purpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND No. 66—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,52,51,000 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, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND No 125—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,96,07,000 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, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multi-purpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND No 126—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,16,94,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges

[Mr. Speaker]

which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

सरदार इकबाल सिंह (फीरोजपुर) स्वीफ साहब, इन साल के दौरान में इस मुहकमे के पहले पाटिल साहब मिनिसटर थे, और इस वक्त हाफिज साहब मिनिसटर हूँ। इन दोनों मिनिसटरों के प्रह्व में इस मुहकमे में बहुत काम हुआ है जो कि हिन्दुस्तान के बहुत से लोगो के साथ ताल्लुक रखता है। इस मुहकमे के काम का खास तौर से किसान से ताल्लुक है क्योंकि यह हमारा देश एक एक किसान देश है, और किसान जिन चीज को सब से अच्छा समझता है और जिसकी आधा करता है और जिसके लिए कोशिश करता है वह पानी है। और जो मिनिसट्री किसान का पानी देने का काम करती है वह किसान की भ्रम से ज्यादा हमदर्द मिनिसट्री हो सकती है।

आप देखेंगे कि हम देश के हर इलाके के लोगों की तरफ से यही व्यवहार जाहिर की जाती है कि हमारे यहाँ ज्यादा नहरे हों, ज्यादा बिजली हो ताकि हम देश की उपज ज्यादा हो सके।

सब से पहले में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि साल हा साल से इस सदन में श्री इमरान के बाहर यह आवाज उठायी जा रही है कि माइनर इरिगेशन का मुहकमा इन मिनिसट्री में शामिल किया जाये। आप जानते हैं कि इस वक्त माइनर इरिगेशन से हिन्दुस्तान का ज्यादा इलाका मरबा होता है बनिस्वत मेजर इरिगेशन के या दूसरे साधनों के। इसलिए जब तक माइनर इरिगेशन का मुहकमा इस मिनिसट्री के साथ शामिल नहीं किया जाता तब तक इस काम में दो कंट्रोल रहते हैं। एक काम करने

वाला मुहकमा होता है और दूसरा हुकम देने वाला। इस लिए मेरी पहली मांग यह है कि माइनर इरिगेशन को इरिगेशन एंड पावर मिनिसट्री में शामिल किया जाये ताकि इस तरह और ज्यादा काम हो सके। आप जानते हैं कि बहुत जगह ट्यूब वेल से और टैंकों से इरिगेशन होता है। आप जानते हैं कि ज्यादातर टैंक इस लिए सरबिस के लायक नहीं रहे हैं कि उन पर किसी प्रायमी का कंट्रोल नहीं रहा। पहले यह चीज पंचायतों और दूसरे लोगों के हाथ में थी पर अब वह कंट्रोल नहीं रहा। एग्जीक्यूटिव मिनिसट्री इस तरह पूरा ध्यान नहीं दे सकती क्योंकि उसके पास टैकनिकल नो हाऊ नहीं है। इस लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह चीज यानी माइनर इरिगेशन इस इरिगेशन और पावर मिनिसट्री में शामिल होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात में मेंटर वाटर पावर कमिशन के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि पावर हाथों का बनाने में और टैकनिकल मदद देने में हिन्दुस्तान में जो हम कमिशन ने काम किया है उससे इसका बहुत तेज नाम हुआ है। लेकिन इसके साथ साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो कि अब बहुत ज्यादा नहरे और डैम बन रहे हैं इन लिए इन वाटर पावर कमिशन का इरिगेशन इन्वोल्व होना चाहिए। खास तौर पर हम देख रहे हैं कि जितनी नहरें बन रही हैं उन पर जो कास्ट है वह बढ़ती जा रही है और जो एस्टीमेट बनाये जाते हैं, वे एक्जुरेट नहीं होते हैं। इनके साथ ही साथ जो-जो नहरों पर रिपेयर का खर्चा होता है वह बहुत ही ज्यादा होता है। इस लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि वाटर एंड पावर कमिशन के काम को रिपार्गेनाइज कर दिया जाये और वह इस वक्त से किया जाना चाहिये कि जहाँ तक इरिगेशन का सवाल है, वह तो स्टेट्स पर छोड़ दिया जाये, जो इन्वैस्टीगेशन, डिजाइनिंग का काम है वह वाटर एंड पावर कमिशन के पास

रहे और इसको एक ऐसी टैक्नीकल बाडी बना दिया जाता चाहिये कि यह एक गाइडिंग बाडी बन सके फिर चाहे वह गाइडेंस स्टेट को दी जानी हो न्यूनिस्विफ्ल कमेटी को दी जानी हो या किसी और को दी जानी हो। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वाटर और पावर कमिशन को और भी अधिक अधिकार दिये जायें और वाटर और पावर कमिशन में आप एक इस्पैकेशन का प्रलम से महकमा कायम करे ताकि वह देख सके कि जो डैम बनाये जाते हैं, वे एक तो सस्ते बनें और साथ ही साथ मजबूत बनें। इस तरह के डैम उसे नहीं बनने देना चाहिये जो मजबूत तो न हो और जिन पर रिपेयर का खर्चा ज्यादा आता रहे। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वाटर और पावर कमिशन के जो प्रोप्लान हैं, उनको तीन अगहो पर तकसीम कर दिया जाये, एक तो डिजाइनिंग का महकमा हो, एक प्रोपेयन का और तीसरा इस्पैकेशन का। मैं मानता हूँ कि एक भासले कमेटी बँधी हुई है जो रिपार्गेनाइजेशन के मामले पर गौर कर रही है। लेकिन उसके टर्मस आफ रेफ्रेन्स जो हैं वे ऐसे हैं कि कुछ हो नहीं सकता है। इस सूरत में सेंट्रल वाटर और पावर कमिशन कोई इफैक्टिव बाडी नहीं बन सकती है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब तक यह एक इफैक्टिव बाडी नहीं बनती तब तक हिन्दुस्तान में नहरों के बनाने का काम, उनकी इस्पैकेशन का काम, उनकी डिजाइनिंग का काम और डैम से सम्बन्धित सब काम इफैक्टिव ढंग पर नहीं किये जा सकते हैं।

दूसरा प्लान खत्म होने जा रहा है और तीसरा प्लान बनने जा रहा है। उसमें खयाल किया जाता है कि एक हक्कार के करीब रुपया वाटर इरिगेशन, पावर इत्यादि पर खर्च होगा। इस बास्ते बेहतर होगा अगर अभी में इस बात पर विचार कर लिया जाये कि कहीं ऐसा न हो कि एक डैम यहाँ पर बने और एक डैम वहाँ पर बने। आपको रिजन बाइज और बेसिन बाइज प्लान तैयार करने होंगे। आपको इस ढंग से प्लानिंग करना

होगा कि गंगा का एक बेसिन है और कहा कहा नहरें बन सकती हैं, कहा कहा डैम बन सकते हैं और कहा कहा इन डैमों को बनाने से ज्यादा लाभ हो सकता है। इसी तरीके पर सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लिये आप स्कीम्स बनायें। इसका एक बेसिन प्रलहदा है, साउथ के दरियाओं का बेसिन प्रलहदा है। आपको बेसिन बाइज रिपार्गेनाइज करके स्कीम्स बनानी पड़ेंगी ताकि कोई पालिटिक्स काम न करने पाये, स्टेट्स के इटिग्रेट काम न करने पाये बल्कि जो तमाम हिन्दुस्तान के जित में चीज हो सकती है, वही हा जनता के हित की चीज हो, किसान के हित की चीज हो और सारे हिन्दुस्तान की बहतरी की चीज हो। इस बास्ते मैं चाहता हूँ कि अब जब थर्ड फाइव इयर प्लान बनने जा रहा है, तो हिन्दुस्तान को रिपार्गेनाइज किया जाय, प्रलहदा प्रलहदा दरियाओं के बसिन के तौर पर और प्रलहदा प्रलहदा दरियाओं के बेसिन के तौर पर उनके लिये बांड बनाये जायें उनके लिये स्कीम्स बनाई जायें ताकि इनवेस्टीगेशन का काम आसानी से हो सके और अच्छा हो सके।

अब मैं कैनाल वाटर डिसप्यूट के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि जो अब हिन्दुस्तान ने अखत्याग किया है, वह काफी सस्ता है और दुनिया कुछ हद तक इसको महसूस भी करने लग गई है, बल्कि बैंक कुछ हद तक इस चीज को महसूस भी करने लग गया है। लेकिन इसमें बावजूद भी हम लोग जो कि पञ्जाब और राजस्थान में आते हैं, एक चीज को फील करते हैं और हमें अफसोस होता है कि इंग्लैंड के इको-नोमिस्ट्स, इंग्लैंड में लागू बैठ करके हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान के टर्मिन जो कैनाल वाटर डिसप्यूट है, उसके बारे में बातें करते हैं और उन दोनों का हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को पता नहीं होता है और न केवल हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को पता नहीं होना है बल्कि हिन्दुस्तान की जो सुबाई सरकारें हैं, उनको पता नहीं होता है। इंग्लैंड में उनका प्लान निकलता है जिस में

[सरदार इकबाल सिंह]

कास्ट की बात की जाती है। आपके पास कई बार रिवाइज्ड प्लान आये, एक प्लान सन् १९५४ में आया, सन् १९५६ में बल्ड बैक के बेयरमैन ने फिर एक प्लान भेजा और आज अखबारों में निकला है कि पाकिस्तान ने एक नया प्लान दिया है। एक बात मैं साफ तौर पर कह देना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान के लोग और खास तौर पर पंजाब और राजस्थान के लोग यह आशा लगाने बैठे हैं कि कब ये नहरे बनें और कब उन इलाकों में जहाँ पर अभी तक पानी नहीं गया है, जहाँ पर पानी सुलभ नहीं हुआ है, वहाँ पर पानी जाये, वहाँ पर पानी मिलने लगे और यह न ही कि कुछ ऐसे फैसले कर दिये जायें जिससे कि इन इलाकों के लोगों को पानी न मिल सके।

हम ने सन् १९५६ में इस बात को मानते हुए कि सतलुज के पानी के बारे में भी पाकिस्तान कुछ कह सके, उसको पानी अवर दिया जाना चाहिये लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान का स्टैंड मैं समझता हूँ इससे कमखोर पड गया। दूसरी बात यह है कि पाकिस्तान जिस तरह के प्लान पेश कर रहा है उससे तो यही साबित होता है कि वह हिन्दुस्तान के ऊपर इतना ज्यादा सर्वा डालना चाहता है जिससे हिन्दुस्तान के लोग यह महसूस करने लग जायें कि यह उनके लिये एक इकोनॉमिक प्रोपोजिशन नहीं है। पहले हमने इस प्रिंसिपल को एक्सेप्ट किया था कि ५० करोड़ के करीब खपया हमको देना होगा और इतना खपया ही हमको देने को कहा गया था। लेकिन अब मुझे है कि ७००, ८०० और १००० करोड़ के करीब खपया देने को हमें कहा जायेगा और साथ-ही हमको देना पड़े। अगर हमने इतना खपया दे दिया तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी जो स्कीम है, वे कामयाब नहीं हो सकती हैं। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्रिंसिपल हिन्दुस्तान की गवर्नमेंट में बल्ड बैक के कहने पर मंजूर किया था, उसी पर हमारी सरकार

को स्टिक करना चाहिये और पाकिस्तान को पानी देना बन्द करने की जो सन् १९६२ की डेडलाइन रखी गई है, उसके बाद पानी उठे नहीं दिया जाना चाहिये। उसके बाद अगर आपने पानी दिया तो मैं आपकी राजस्थान कैनाल बन्द सकती है, न सरहिन्द कीडर बन्द सकती है और न ही भाखड़ा कैनाल बन्द सकती है।

इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि ब्यास डैम, ब्यास लिंक और बीन डैम को भी आपको जल्दी से जल्दी मुकम्मिल करना चाहिये ताकि हिन्दुस्तान में जो राजस्थान कैनाल के लोगों के स्वप्न हैं और जिसके बारे में यह कहा जा सकता है कि दुनिया की सब से बड़ी कैनाल होगी, वे स्वप्न पूरे हो सकें।

अब मैं भाखड़ा डैम के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। भाखड़ा डैम न सिर्फ हिन्दुस्तान का सब से बेहतरीन डैम है बल्कि दुनिया के बेहतरीन डैम में से एक है। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपकी सोचना चाहिये कि उस पर सर्वा कितना आता है और उससे आमदनी कितनी होती है और आपके लिये यह सोचना मुनासिब भी है। लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हर एक चीज को इसी तरह के सोचना कि जैसे के बजाय जैसा हमें कितना मिलेगा, ठीक नहीं है। यह ठीक है कि भाखड़ा डैम के बनावे के बाद हिन्दुस्तान में खेती की उपज बढ़ेगी और लोगों को इससे कई प्रकार के लाभ होंगे और मजिया भी कई नई बसी है और लोगों का स्टैंडर्ड आफ लिविंग भी ऊंचा हुआ है। ये सब चीजें हमें सामने रखनी होंगी। अगर आप यह सोचते हैं कि जब टी० बी० ए० बना उस वक्त यह बात हुई कि अगर हमने १५० करोड़ खपया खर्च किया और पूँक पांच परसेंट हमारा इतका इंटिरेस्ट है, इस वाली पाँच परसेंट के मुताबिक वह रकम वापिस होगी

चाहिये, तो वह ठीक नहीं होगा। मैं मानता हूँ कि कुछ न कुछ हमें वापिस होना चाहिये। मैं इस बात को भी मानता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट को यह चाहती है कि इसको एक इकोनॉमिक प्रोमोविषन बनना चाहिये वह भी ठीक है। लेकिन उसके लिये मैं समझता हूँ कि राइट बैंक का भी बिजली घर बनना है चाखड़ा में, उसको बन्धी के बन्धी बना दिया जाना चाहिये। पहले बिजली की बात तो बहुत खली थी लेकिन वह बिजली या तो वहाँ की फील्डियों को मिल जायेगी या मिल गई है और लोगों को जो बिजली मिलनी थी वह बहुत कम मिल गई है। इस बाते जब तक राइट बैंक के बिजली घर को आप नहीं बनाते हैं, तब तक चाखड़ा डैम इकोनॉमिक प्रोमोविषन नहीं हो सकता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट हर चीज को ग्रामदनी के स्टैंडर्ड से न सोचे और अगर उसी स्टैंडर्ड से सोचना है तो वह चीज तब तक पूरी नहीं हो सकती जब तक कि राइट बैंक का बिजली घर नहीं बनता है। जितनी भी बिजली पैदा हुई है या पैदा होने वाली है, उसमें से ज्यादातर बिजली वहाँ की फर्टिलाइजर फील्डों के जायेगी और पंजाब, राजस्थान और दिल्ली के जो लोग हैं, उनको बहुत कम मिल पायेगी। आपने बिजली के सिलसिले में तजवीजें बनाईं लेकिन वे तजवीजें पूरी नहीं हुईं। लोगों की बिजली की डिमांड दिन-ब-दिन बढ़ती जा रही है और खास तौर पर उन इलाकों में बढ़ती जा रही है जहाँ पर नई नई फील्डियाँ बनी हैं। वे फील्डियाँ लोगों ने अपनी हिम्मत से लगाई हैं, रिफ्यूजियों ने लगाई हैं, उन्होंने अपनी हिम्मत से इन दस्तकारियों को शुरू किया है और साथ उनके लिये यह विहायत जरूरी है कि उनको बिजली मिले ताकि उनकी बिजली का जो स्टैंडर्ड है वह ऊंचा उठ सके। हमें सोचना होगा कि अगर हम पंजाब, राजस्थान और दिल्ली की इकोनॉमिक हाथ को ऊंचा उठाना चाहते हैं, तो हमें जो राइट बैंक का बिजली घर है, उसको बनाना ही होगा और हो सकता है कि जो पैसा आपका उस पर साथ लगे, उससे

ज्यादा पैसा तब लगे जब साथ में आपने इसको बनाया और उस बस्त हो सकता है कि लोगों को उतना फायदा न हो जितना साथ होगा।

अब मैं राजस्थान कैनाल के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। इसके लिये बहुत सी जमीन पंजाब में एकमात्र की गई है और बहुत सी जगह पर आपने इसका कम्प्लेक्सन भी दिया है। लेकिन एक दो बातें इसके सिलसिले में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। कम्प्लेक्सन का जो स्टैंडर्ड है, उसको आप इस ढंग से मीयर करते हैं कि उन गांवों में पिछले पांच सालों की रजिस्ट्रियों से क्या प्रोसत बैठती है। लेकिन वहाँ बहुत से गांव ऐसे थे जोकि रिफ्यूजी गांव थे। वहाँ पर जमीन बिक नहीं सकती थी और पिछले दस सालों में कोई जमीन बिकी नहीं। आप मुन कर हैरान होंगे कुछ गांव हैं उन क. ग्रामदनी एकड के हिसाब से ८०० या ९०० १० मानी जाती है। उस के साथ ही एक रिफ्यूजी गांव आ जाता है, वहा की ग्रामदनी २०० १० मानी जाती है। इस तरह की डिस्पीरिटी है। मउरर यह कहते हैं कि देखा, इस गांव की कोई रजिस्ट्री ही नहीं हुई थी। प्रोसत जो निकलती है पांच साल में वह २०० १० निकलती है। वहाँ रजिस्ट्री हो नहीं सकती थी, इसलिये कि लोगों के पास जमीन नहीं थी। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि जिन रिफ्यूजी भाइयों की जमीन वहा पर आई है, उस का कम्प्लेक्सन भी उसी ढंग से दिया जाय जैसेकि आप ने डी० बी० सी० में किया है जिस तरह से चंरीगढ़ में किया है। ताकि जिस की बीज को आप लेते हैं, उस के साथ कम से कम न्याय तो हो सके और वह यह महसूस न करे कि देश के हित में उसे जमीन देनी पड रही है लेकिन उस का पूरा पूरा मुआबजा नहीं मिला।

इस के साथ ही साथ मैं ररल एलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन के सिलसिले में भी कहना चाहता

[सरदार इनाम सिंह]

हूँ। अगर आप हिन्दुस्तान के गांवों की धायवनी को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, किसानों को सुव्यवहार करना चाहते हैं, तो इस के लिये जरूरी है कि आप उस को बिजली दें और बिजली सस्ते दामों पर दें ताकि वह अपना काम प्रच्छी तरह से कर सके। जब आप उस से गन्धम मांगते हैं और इतने रुपये में लेना चाहते हैं तो आज वह जितने खर्च में गन्धम पैदा करता है उतने में कीमत उतनी नहीं कर सकता। वह गेहूँ सस्ता पैदा नहीं कर सकता। अगर आप उस को गेहूँ ज्यादा पैदा करने को कहते हैं तो जरूरी है कि इस के लिये साधन हों, जो कम से कम साधन इस के लिये जरूरी हों, उन को आप उसे दीजिये। इसलिये पहले तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन को ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिजली दी जाय, दूसरे यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन को सस्ते दामों पर बिजली दी जाय और तीसरी बात जो कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि आप ने पंजाब में पांच साल के लिये १५ करोड़ रुपये रूरल एलेक्ट्रिकेशन के लिये दिये हैं तीन सालों में १० करोड़ ५० लाख ५० खर्च हो चुका है। जब पंजाब गवर्नमेंट सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के पास आती है कि देखो, हम ने तीन सालों में पाने चार करोड़ ६० लाख के हिसाब में खर्च किया है। चौथे साल में तमाम रुपया खर्च हो जायगा। तो इस एक साल के लिये हम क्या करें? तो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कहती है कि १५ करोड़ ६० की लिमिट है, हम उस से भागे नहीं जा सकते। इसलिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि या तो आप इस लिमिट को ऊंचा करें या फिर प्लैनिंग कमिशन से ले कर दें। लेकिन कम से कम जो टेम्पो पंजाब में एलेक्ट्रिकेशन का है अगर उस को आप ने छोड़ दिया तो लोगों में उत्साह नहीं रहेगा और लोगों की बेहतरी नहीं हो सकेगी। इसलिये मैं आशा करता हूँ कि प्लैनिंग कमिशन ने और इरिगेशन एंड पावर मिनिस्ट्री ने जो

१५ करोड़ ६० का टारगेट रक्का है उस को वे कम से कम १० करोड़ ६० का करेंगे।

पंजाब में वाटर लागिंग के सिलसिले में नहरे बनी। दुनिया में जहां कहीं भी नहरे बनी हैं, उन्हें ठीक तरह से इस्तीमाल करने के लिये यह इन्तजाम किया गया कि पानी के निकल जाने के सिलसिले के साथ साथ चैनल भी बनी। अगर आप मिल के प्राय-पाशी के जग्ये को देखें तो पता चलेगा कि वहां एक नहर जाती है और उन के साथ ही दूसरी चैनल भी जाती है जिस से बरसात का या दूसरा जो ज्यादा पानी हो वाटर लागिंग का वह उन से निकल सके। पंजाब में जहां आप ने २० लाख एकड़ के करीब पिछले दस सालों में पानी दिया है, लेकिन उस के बजाय ३५ लाख एकड़ के करीब जमीन में वाटर लागिंग हो गया है पंजाब में। उस से पंजाब के किसानों को नुकमान होना है। आज एक तरफ हम उस में कहते हैं कि गुम को प्राबियाना देना चाहिये तो किसान कहता है कि हम जितना मालिया देना चाहिये, जितना टैक्स देना चाहिये वह हम कैसे दें। आप ने इन्तजाम जरूर किया, लेकिन हमारे खेत में पानी नहीं है तो हम प्राबियाना और मालिया और दूसरे टैक्स कहा से दें? जहां पंजाब में भाखरा के सिलसिले में एक तस्वीर बनी थी वहां पंजाब के ही गांवों में एक दूसरी तस्वीर है जोकि वाटर लागिंग की तस्वीर है। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि वहां के लिये ज्यादा रुपया दिया जाय। आज तक सवाल यह था कि वाटर लागिंग का कोई हेड न तो प्लानिंग कमिशन में है और न फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री में। आज तक वह लोग कहते हैं कि हम रुपया दें किंतु प्राइटेम के नीचे, किंतु हेड के नीचे और किंतु जरिये से दें। लेकिन आज सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने और प्लैनिंग कमिशन ने इस बात को माना है। इसलिये इस बीच के लिये आप को ज्यादा से ज्यादा रुपया देना चाहिये ताकि पंजाब में जो

३५ लाख एकड़ जमीन काबिल काबल नहीं है, वहाँ के पानी निकाला जा सके और वहाँ के बोनों को बाधाहान किया जा सके। इस के लिये थो फलड कंट्रोल की स्कीमें हैं वह इस के साथ शामिल की जा सकती हैं। लेकिन फलड कंट्रोल एक मुस्तलिफ चीज है और वाटर सागिंग एक मुस्तलिफ चीज है। वाटर सागिंग तो एक साल का मसला है, कुछ दिनों का मसला नहीं हो सकता। फलड कंट्रोल कुछ मुद्दत के लिये होता है ताकि किसान मुसीबत का मुकाबला कर सकें। जब किसान अपनी जमीन में साल भर पानी देना है तो निराश हो जाता है। इस लिये आप फलड कंट्रोल को टेकनिकल तौर पर बेवक मिला लें लेकिन कुछ इलाकों में वाटर सागिंग से बचाने के लिये जो भी फलड कंट्रोल की स्कीम है वह काम नहीं कर सकती। मान लीजिये एक जगह से नहर जाती है। उस नहर का जो नेत्रेल है वह ११०० फुट है, लेकिन उस के पास कुछ जमीन उस से नीची पड़ी हुई है क्योंकि जो यह नहर बनी है वह कोन्दूर नेत्रेल पर नहीं बनी। जिस वक्त वह नहरे बनी थी उस वक्त कोन्दूर सिस्टम नहीं था। जिस वक्त पंजाब में सरहिन्द, जमनगरवी और अमर बारी दुप्राब नहरे जो, उम वक्त कोन्दूर टाइप की नहरे नहीं बनयी थी। जिस वक्त यह नहरे खोदी गई उस वक्त साइंटिफिक तरकीब इतनी नहीं हुई थी पानी की रोक थाम ठीक तरह से की जा सके। लेकिन बाज जगह ऐसी भी थी कि जमीन में कुदरती तौर पर वाटर सागिंग हो जाना चाहिये था। लेकिन वृकि आप ने पानी ज्यादा बिया है और बरसात भी ज्यादा हो गई है इस लिये मसला और घेब हो गया। जब तक आप ऐसे इलाकों के मसले को हल नहीं करते तब तक यह मसला पूरी तरह हल नहीं हो सकता। इस लिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम १० करोड़ रुपया पंजाब की वाटर सागिंग के सिजलिजे में जो स्कीमें हैं उन के लिये दिया जाय। पंजाब गवर्नमेंट

ने स्कीमें दी थी हैं, देगी भी। लेकिन यह एक नैशनल मसला है। पंजाब इस देश को गेहूँ सप्लाई कर सकता है, जिननी सई चाहिये वह सप्लाई कर सकता है, जितना कि और कोई भी सूबा सप्लाई नहीं कर सकता। इस लिये इस मूबे के लोगों को बचाने के लिये १० करोड़ रुपया और दिया जाना चाहिये।

आप ने जो सरहन्द फीडर बनाया है, आखीर में उस के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। आप का यह टार्गेट है कि थर्ड फाइव इमर प्लैन के बाद आप लोग स्टैपल काटन को इम्पार्ट नहीं करेंगे। लाग स्टैपल काटन पैदा होती है फीरोजपुर और गंगानगर के इलाके में। अगर आप बाकई ६० करोड़ रुपया सालाना बचाना चाहते हैं तो वह उस वक्त तक नहीं बच सकना जब तक आप वाटर प्रलाउस को इन्कीज नहो करेंगे। और वह इस तरह से हो सकना कि आप एक सरहन्द कॅनाल फीडर बनाने लेंगे। उसे ५७०० क्यूसेक्स के बिय ५७०० या ६२०० क्यूसेक्स की बना रहे हैं। वहा पर वाटर प्रलाउंस ५० फीसदी के बजाय ६२ या ८० फीसदी कर देना चाहिये। अगर आप ऐसा करेंगे तब ही जो हमारा थर्ड फाइव इमर प्लैन का टार्गेट है लाग स्टैपल काटन के बारे में वह पूरा हो सकेगा और हम इस काटन के बारे में सेल्फ सफिशिएन्ट हो सकेंगे।

Mr. Speaker: Shri Barman. After that, I shall call Sardar A. S. Saigal. He wants to go away. Then I will give opportunities to Members from Rajasthan, Mysore, Orissa and every other State.

An Hon. Member: Andhra?

Mr. Speaker: Yes; Andhra. I can never forget Andhra.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhaur): Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar,—all States.

Shri B. R. Chavan (Karad): What about Maharashtra—Bombay?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Bombay is a State

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): What about Himachal Pradesh?

Mr. Speaker: I shall give opportunities to Members from all States. But I cannot call all the hon. Members at one and the same time!

Shri Barman (Cooch-Bihar—Reserved—Sch. Castes) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the previous speaker has spoken at length about the conditions of his State of Punjab and the help that it awaits at the hands of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. May I with your permission invite the attention of the House to another corner of our great country, namely, the State of West Bengal?

In the beginning, I shall invite the attention of the Ministry to the small tract of West Bengal which is in my constituency, viz., the district of Cooch-Bihar and Jalpaiguri. It is the only link between the eastern part of India and the rest of India, after the partition of our country.

I shall first refer to the flood control wing of the Irrigation Ministry. At the outset, I must pay my fullest tribute to the work which has been done so far as town protection scheme is concerned. Unfortunately, a number of streams that carry sand from the great Himalayas, specially from Bhutan, has totally changed the configuration of the rivers in that part and floods are in vehemence since 1950. I must pay a tribute to the Ministry that it has taken the earliest steps; otherwise even the district towns of Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Bihar would have been affected very badly. The other sub-divisional towns also were in danger, but by the timely action of this Ministry by raising protection bunds, the towns have been saved.

But I now draw the attention of the Ministry—both at the Centre and at

the State level—to divert their attention to the rural areas. The towns are saved, but the complaint of the rural areas is that in the process of saving the towns, the flood waters have been diverted to the rural parts and this has resulted in the devastation of thousands and thousands of acres of good paddy land. That is the grievance of the peasants and agriculturists, namely, that the Ministry are not taking that much interest in the rural areas as in the towns. We know that the problem is such that every step cannot be taken all at once. But now that the town protection scheme has advanced far, I would humbly request the Ministry here and at the State level to divert their attention to the safety of the rural areas.

In some places, because of the protection scheme, the rural areas have been severely affected. In some places, after the town is saved by the protection bunds, steps are not taken in such a way that the river water may be diverted to the proper channel, instead of causing devastation to the highlands where paddy was grown, specially in the case of the Tista bund and Alpurduar Ravages have been caused every year by several rivers, but I would like to make particular mention of the Torsa river. It is a river which has not yet been controlled. During the consultation by the Ministry with the Members of Parliament just a month ago, we were told that up till now the Ministry had not come to a final decision as to how the river can be controlled. It was in 1950 that the Torsa bridge was washed away. It is National Highway No. 31 that is breached every year and remains breached for at least six months in the year. The Ministry may take some more time to come to a final decision, but in the meantime, I would suggest that at least protection bunds should be raised on the right bank of Char Torsa, so that the river cannot cross the highway, as it is doing year after year. They may take a final step so far as the control

of the turbulent river is concerned. But in the meantime, I would urge that the small part of India that is the only link and way of communication between the eastern part of India and the rest should be attended to with due interest.

I would like to mention another great factor in which West Bengal is very much concerned—I mean the Ganga Barrage. I know that in November last, a discussion was raised by Mr. Choudhuri and the House heard all the arguments necessary for it. Both Mr. Patil and Mr. Hathi had replied at length, but to our utter surprise, we were not satisfied. Mr. Patil said that it is of national importance for the protection of the city and the port of Calcutta and for everything under the earth, but there is some reason which cannot be divulged to the House. That statement makes us full of distress and more suspicious about the scheme. Later on, Mr. Hathi said that certain data is going to be collected because of the great flood of 1954 and all possible steps would be taken as soon as possible. We are very much apprehensive of the phrase 'as soon as possible'. Because of the urgency of the scheme so far as the existence of West Bengal is concerned, we would very much implore this Ministry to give us some definite answer that it will be done. If data is not complete, it may be collected later on. Once the Ministry comes to the final decision that the Ganga Barrage scheme will be taken up, we can certainly wait. Such actions are not new. In the case of Damodar Valley, long before the data was complete, project reports were drawn up and the work was started. Why can't it be done in this case also? This has been waiting since 105 years when the engineers had indicated that Ganga Barrage is the only way to save the port of Calcutta. Later on, expert after expert supported it and in 1867, at the instance of this Government, Dr. Hansen had supported it and he said that this is the only

way of saving the river Bagirata and Hooghly from being silted up, with which is connected the safety of the port and city of Calcutta. We want to be assured by the Ministry that they have finally decided to take up the scheme and that preliminary works will be started. In the meantime, the necessary data may be collected.

I am not going to repeat any of the arguments that have been advanced on the floor of the House at that time in November, 1958. But later on, we are much scared that unless the scheme is taken up soon, the port and the city of Calcutta are in danger.

As regards salinity we have been told by our experts attached to the West Bengal Government that the salinity of the Hooghly water has increased so much that the Calcutta city is itself in danger. According to him 200 to 250 in a million is the salinity that is permissible. But recently the salinity has increased to 2,000 or 2,500. We have ourselves tested this when we had gone to Calcutta to inspect the electrically driven trains. We could not take the water and so we had to change it on the way.

13 hrs.

We have been told that even costly tube wells that have been sunk in the city of Calcutta have become useless after 4-5 years. The whole city is now full of tube-wells. Every house that has got a number of inmates is having a tube well now. Then we are told that if the silting up of the Hooghly is going up as it is going up—now it is 15 per cent. of the river section that is filled up every year—in that case the tube-wells will also become useless and the Calcutta city will become a desolate city in no time.

We are told that during the monsoon season in 3-4 months about 50 million tons of sand are carried down by the Ganges waters whereas

[Shri Barman]

the Port Trust can remove only 10 million tons. The rest remains there and the river gets silted up year after year. Now, if this process goes on and the Ministry is cogitating over this matter year after year, within twenty years the Calcutta port will go down. It is a national concern and specially our concern in the city of Calcutta. The city of Calcutta should not go the way of Tamluk or the other cities that had existed in historical times such as Hooghly and other towns. If this city goes it is the whole State of Bengal that will become desolate. The river is rising up. So the small rivers that fall into Hooghly and Bhagirathi, their mouths are raised and choked, and that is leading to devastating floods every alternate year with the result that crores and crores worth of paddy crops and other good crops are being wasted. The land is becoming marshy. I do not know why the Ministry is not in a position to tell this House when this scheme will be taken up. If they cannot give the date, at least we want to know the year by which it will be taken up.

So far as we can infer from the statement of the hon. Minister Shri Patil, the reason which cannot be told—we can only infer—is the question of Pakistan. Here I want to pose a question. In the year 1853 the engineers opined that because the Ganges has changed its course and instead of flowing through Bhagirathi and Hooghly it flows towards Brahmaputra there must be a raised barrage at Farraka. After that, many other engineers also opined that a barrage is necessary.

Here I want to mention a special factor. At the time of partition the district of Murshidabad, which has a Muslim majority of more than 60 per cent, according to the partition principle, should have gone to Pakistan, as it is contiguous to Pakistan. But the district of Kulna, which has a Hindu majority, ought to have remained with West Bengal. But at the time when partition was made, Kulna went over to Pakistan and

Murshidabad to West Bengal. What is the reason? The only reason is that the rivers Bhagirathi and Hooghly are very important for the existence of West Bengal. Is it not so? The long-standing argument of our experts, of our engineers is that in order to save the port of Calcutta and the city of Calcutta it is imperative that the Ganges water must be diverted to a certain extent through West Bengal. If that is not the reason, I do not know what the reasons are. Now, without knowing the mind of Pakistan, simply to be afraid of Pakistan that it may raise an objection is not correct. I do not know the reason for being afraid of Pakistan. We have got every factor in our favour, in favour of raising the Farraka barrage. Now, unless and until Government makes a public statement that it must be done and it shall be done, we cannot know what objection Pakistan will raise. Let Government come to a final decision. Let them tell the world, not only Pakistan but the world, that without injuring Pakistan in any way we are going to save our own country. I think that will give some satisfaction to the people of West Bengal. They cannot remain satisfied with this sort of indefinite statements, this sort of vague statements and this phraseology "as soon as". With due respect to our Ministers, who have certainly at heart the best interests not only of India but every part of India, I beg to submit through you to the House that the people of West Bengal are very much exercised, their minds are very much exercised, over this matter. Let them have some assurance. Then we can wait so far as collection of data is concerned.

I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: I am now calling Sardar A. S. Saigal. Then I will call Shri Panigrahi, Shri Karnal Singhji and Shri Subramanyam.

सरदार अ० सि० साइगल (जंजनीर) :
प्रत्यक्ष महोदय, इतिहास एव पावर नभयव

को विनाई के ऊपर मैं अपने कुछ विचार सदन के सम्मुख रखना चाहता हूँ। भारतीय विद्युत शक्ति का कानून जो कि सन् १९१० का बना हुआ है उसको बदलना जरूरी है और इसलिये इस कानून में रद्दोबदल करने के लिये जो भी कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं वह बहुत अच्छी चीज है और स्वागत योग्य है। जो बिजली लेते हैं और जो बिजली देना है उसमें समानता लानी जरूरी है और इस दृष्टि से इस कानून में जो तरजीब की जा रही है वह सही कदम है। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह कहूँगा कि इस कानून को जितनी जल्दी हो सके धरम में लाने की कृपा की जाय।

विदेशों में जो विद्युत शक्ति पैदा की जा रही है पर कॅपिटा यह इन प्रकार है। रूस में सन् १९५६ में ६६० किलोवाट बिजली पैदा की गई और जापान में सन् १९५७ में ८५० किलोवाट बिजली पैदा की गई। यूनाइटेड किंगडम में २००० किलोवाट बिजली पैदा की गई लेकिन इन सब के मकाबले हमारे भारत देश में हम केवल ३८ किलोवाट बिजली ही पैदा कर रहे हैं। आप देखेंगे कि हमें इस दिशा में जितना प्रायः बढ़ना चाहिये था इस दस साल के असे में हम प्रायः नहीं बढ़े हैं।

अब इसमें बड़ी शक्ति को पैदा करने में जो लक्ष्य प्राप्ता है वह भी हमें ध्यान में रखना चाहिये। हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिक में १२५ नये पैसे से लेकर ३ नये पैसे तक पड़ेगा और धरमल के जरिये से जो बिजली पैदा की जायगी उस पर २ नये पैसे से लेकर ४ नये पैसे तक लयेगा। मैं चाहूँगा कि बिजली सप्लाय का जो सन् १९४८ का कानून है उसे भी हम तरजीब करे ताकि लाइसेंस होल्डर्स को अपना स्टैंडर्ड रेट तय करने के साथ-साथ उन्हें सुविधा मिल सके। इसके साथ ही साथ इस कानून के अन्तर्गत आप दूसरी स्टेट्स को भी जहाँ कि अभी तक

एलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स नहीं बने हैं, बनाने के लिये राशी कर लेना चाहिये और आस कर यूनिवर्सल टैरिफ्टीरिब में इस कानून को लागू करना चाहिये ताकि वहाँ भी इस १९४८ के बिजली कानून के अन्तर्गत वे भी कानून बनायें।

मैं सदन का ध्यान कोरबा का धरमल स्टेशन जो कि ६०,००० किलोवाट का है, उनकी और विलाना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ पर ६०,००० किलोवाट का धरमल स्टेशन तैयार हो रहा है और जिसका कि उद्घाटन बहुत ही शीघ्र होने वाला है। मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने ७५,००० के बिजली के दो जनरेटर्स बनाने के लिये आपसे प्रार्थना की है। अब यदि आप देखेंगे तो आपको मालूम होगा कि यह जो ६०,००० किलोवाट का आपका स्टेशन है, उसकी सारी विद्युत शक्ति जिनाई के कारखाने में काम आ जायेगी। अब जो आपके दूसरे प्लान्स हैं उनको प्रायः बढ़ाने के लिये आपके पास विद्युत शक्ति कहा बचनी है? इनलिये मेरी आपसे यह प्रार्थना है कि आप इस द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना में यह जो ७५,०००, ७५,००० के दो जनरेटर्स लगाने की तजवीज है इस पर ध्यान दें और उन पर शीघ्र से शीघ्र कार्य शुरू किया जाये। ताकि हम कोयले के खदानों को भी दे सकें।

मैं आपका शुक्रगुजार हूँ कि आपने ६०,००० किलोवाट का जो बीरभिमपुर का धरमल स्टेशन है उसको और ६२ हजार किलोवाट की चम्बल योजनाओं को लिया है और आप उसके लिये धन्यवाद के पात्र है।

इसके साथ ही साथ आपतीसरी पंच-वर्षीय योजना के लिए "हृत्सदी" जो कि बिसालपुर के जिने में है और जहाँ कि सर्वे का काम हो रहा है उसे काम चलते ही लेंवें। यह एक मस्टीपज स्क्रीम है और

[अध्यापक स. वि. सहलगुण]

इससे करीब ७० या ७५ हजार किलोवाट बिजली मिलेगी, ऐसा मेरा अनुमान है।

मध्य प्रदेश में बिजली शक्ति की कमी है और ग्रामों में बिजली शक्ति देने के लिये आपका सपनाई एक्ट १९५० में रद्दी-बदल करना पड़े तो कर लें। मैं चाहूंगा कि आप वेहालों में बिजली देने के लिये बिजली केने वालों पर १ नया पैसा प्रति यूनिट का कर लगायें और इस प्रकार जो ग्रामवली आपकी हो, उसको आप ग्रामों में बिजली देने के लिये इयारमार्क कर दें और इस तरह प्राप्त रकम को आप और किसी चीज में न खर्च करें। अगर आप तत्कालीना लगायें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि हमें इसके जरिये काफ़ी ग्रामवली हो सकती है और वेहालों में बिजली पहुंचाने का जो हमारा कार्य है वह अच्छी तरह से आगे बढ़ सकता है।

सन् १९५६ में प्लानिंग कमिशन ने हर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को यह सुझाव दिया था कि अपने-अपने हेडक्वार्टर्स में एक बकिंग ग्रुप कायम करें। मैं नहीं जानता कि कितनी स्टेटों ने इस पर धमल किया और इस सम्बन्ध में कितना काम हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि किन-किन राज्य सरकारों ने इसको धमल में लाने के सम्बन्ध में अपनी राय दी है? सन् १९५१ से लेकर १९५६ तक जो मंत्रालय ने तथा स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने ३४० करोड़ रुपये मेजर या मीडियम सिंचाई के प्रोजेक्ट्स को बनाने में खर्च किया है, उससे वे केवल ५ लाख एकड़ जमीन को ही पानी देने की व्यवस्था कर सके हैं और जिस रफ़्तार से हम चल रहे हैं केबले तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हमें काफ़ी बकत लग आवेगा ताकि हम अपने कारख़ानों को जो कि जमीन को जोतते हैं उनको पानी दे सकें। आज देश में खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हम सिंचाई की व्यवस्था शीघ्र से शीघ्र करें।

13.14 hrs.

[SRI BARMAN in the chair]

सन् १९५० में मंत्रालय ने दो उच्च अधिकारियों को मुकदर किया था। उसके मुताबिक हर एक स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने पानी को किस तरह शीघ्र से शीघ्र काम में लायें और नई प्रोजेक्ट्स को पानी कितनी जल्दी हम दे सकें, इसके लिये उन्होंने क्या कार्य-वाही की है यह मैं नहीं कह सकता। हमें नहीं मालूम है कि इस बिचा में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स क्या कर रही हैं। ज़री महोदय जब उत्तर दें तो इस पर प्रकाश डालने की कृपा करें।

मंत्रालय ने प्लानिंग कमिशन की राय से जो ३०० करोड़ रुपये का विभिन्न प्रांतों में बटवारा किया है यदि आप उसको देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि मध्य प्रदेश के लिये केवल ४ लाख रुपये का प्राविजन रक्का गया है जब कि मध्य प्रदेश की धावाबी २ करोड़ ६० लाख ७१ हजार ६३७ है और जमीन का एरिया मध्य प्रदेश का १ लाख ७१ हजार ३०० वर्ग मील है और दूसरे प्रांतों की धावाबी और क्षेत्रफल को देखते हुये जो उनके लिये जो रकम की व्यवस्था की गई है, उसके मुकामले में मध्य प्रदेश के लिये कम रुपया रखा गया है। मेरी समझ में आपने मध्य प्रदेश के लिये बहुत कम रुपये की व्यवस्था रखी है। मैं आपसे चाहूंगा कि मध्य प्रदेश में आपकी जो योजनामें सर्वे हो चुकी है और कई कारणवश मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार उनको अपने हाथ में नहीं ले सकी है इसलिये मैं आपसे चाहूंगा कि ज़रा जो कि विलासपुर जिले में है उस पर आपको ज्यादा ध्यान दे करके स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को विवश कर देना चाहिये कि वह इस योजना को अपने हाथ में ले। मैं जानता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार को यदि मैं इसके लिये दीव दूँ तो वह मेरे लिये बाधक नहीं होगा क्योंकि नया प्राप्त बनने के बाद वहाँ पर बहुत ही समस्याएँ

सामने बैस हैं और उन समस्याओं को हल करना हमारा कर्तव्य था। हमने उन समस्याओं पर धानी तक काबू नहीं पाया है। इसलिये मैं आपसे कहूँगा कि आप उन्हें इसके लिये प्रायश्चित्त दें। प्रायश्चित्त के प्रोजेक्ट के काम को अपने हाथ में लें।

मुंबेरी तहसील में बिलासपुर की धरहरा नदी है जिसका कि विवरण आपके पास में है। कम से कम धीरे कुछ नहीं तो द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्दर प्रायश्चित्त उसका सर्वे करावें और सर्वे करा कर देखें कि प्रायश्चित्त की क्या व्यवस्था कर सकते हैं ?

हम सब चाहते हैं कि हमारी क्रीप बड़े। अब जब कि प्रायश्चित्त क्रीपिंग करना चाहते हैं तो प्रायश्चित्त देखें कि जहाँ पर पानी की उचित व्यवस्था है वहाँ पर हमारी डबल क्रीप बराबर हो रही है और हम उसमें कामयाबी हासिल कर रहे हैं लेकिन जहाँ पर कि पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है वहाँ हमें पानी और सिंचाई की व्यवस्था ठीक करनी चाहिये। अब मध्य प्रदेश का सास करके बिलासपुर जिला एक सरम्पल जिला है और वह काफ़ी भ्रम दे सकता है यदि वहाँ पर पानी की उसम व्यवस्था की जाय। इसलिये मैं भ्रम ककगा कि हम डबल क्रीपिंग वहाँ कर सकते हैं और लोगों को फायदा पहुँचा सकते हैं और जो हमारी भ्रम की समस्या है वह काफ़ी हद तक हल हो सकती है।

इसी के साथ साथ मैं भ्रम कक कि प्रायश्चित्त प्रोजेक्ट का सर्वे कर रहे हैं जिससे मेरा अन्दाजा है कि एक लाख एकड़ जमीन में प्रायश्चित्त होगी। मैं उस दिन की प्रतीक्षा में हूँ कि द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना के समाप्त होते ही प्रायश्चित्त पर काम शुरू कर दें।

प्रायश्चित्त जो एकानमी माना चाहते हैं उसके सिचुएशन में मैं कहूँगा कि जो सामान एक प्रोजेक्ट में सरम्पल है उसे दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट में ले जाइये और संरक्षण के बारे में जो

पोजीटिविटी बनैरहूँ नहीं चौखें मालूम हुई हैं उनसे काम लीजिये। हर प्रोजेक्ट को बनाने के लिये एक किस्म का सामान इस्तेमाल करे वह व्यवस्था की होनी चाहिये। इस तरह से प्रायश्चित्त काम के काम शुरू में काम कर सकेंगे। प्रोजेक्ट्स को बनाने में जहाँ तक हो सके सामानता का व्यवहार करना चाहिये। इसके लिये प्रायश्चित्त जो कमीशन आनवीन कर रहा है उसके लिये हम प्रायश्चित्त धामारी हैं। इसने पानी प्रायश्चित्त और दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट्स में जो सर्जिमिया थीं उनको दूर करने की मिफारिंस की है जिससे हमारी एकानमी को फायदा होगा।

बाढ़ को रोकने और रूके हुए पानी को निकालने के बारे में जो कार्य किया जा रहा है मैं समझता हूँ कि वह सतोषजनक नहीं है। प्रायश्चित्त पंजाब में, पश्चिम मगाल में, उत्तर प्रदेश में और बिहार में कितने एरिया में वाटर लागिंग है और हम इसका तत्कालीन जानना चाहते हैं तो उसके बारे में जवाब मिलता है नहीं। इसलिये मैं प्रायश्चित्त कहना चाहता हूँ कि मन्त्रालय को इस पर ध्यान देना चाहिये और वे सर्वे करावें कि कितनी जमीन ऐसी है कि जहाँ पर कि वाटर लागिंग हो रहा है और जहाँ पर हम काम नहीं कर सकते। यह काम पहले सास विभाग के अन्दर था। लेकिन मैं नम्पता से कहना चाहता हूँ कि सास विभाग ने इसमें इतनी दिलचस्पी नहीं ली जितनी कि उसे लेनी चाहिये थी। इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है कि हमारे वाटर लागिंग वाले क्षेत्र का क्षेत्रफल जानना चाहिये और अगर हम वहाँ के रहने वाले लोगों की मदद ले तो हम इस काम को कर सकते हैं और इस जमीन को इस साथक बना सकते हैं कि उसमें हल चल सके। यह बहुत बड़ी चीज होगी।

जहाँ तक भ्रमदान का सवाल है अथवा प्रायश्चित्त लोगों से जा कर कहें कि इससे उनका फायदा होने वाला है तो मैं सामने आकर

[अरवार प्र० सि० सहयोग]

काम करेंगे। इसके अलावा प्राय बिलेज पंचायतों और विकास खंडों से भी इस काम में मदद ले सकते हैं। अगर ऐसा किया जाय तो हमको कामयाबी होगी।

आखिर में मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि पाकिस्तान के साथ जो हमारा पानी का झगड़ा चल रहा वह शान्तिपूर्वक हल होना चाहिये। हम किसी से लड़ना नहीं चाहते, हम झगड़ा करना नहीं चाहते, लेकिन यह बात भी सही है कि हम अपने देश को सूखा नहीं रखना चाहते। हम चाहते हैं कि जितने पानी पर हमारा हक है वह हमको मिले। हम किसी दूसरे देश का पानी नहीं लेना चाहते। जो भाई हमसे बिछड़ कर भ्रमण हो गये हैं हम उनको नेस्तानाबूद नहीं करना चाहते। यह हमारी धारणा है। लेकिन हम चाहेंगे कि दोनों पक्ष बैठें और सच्चे दिल से इन चीजों को तय करने की कोशिश करें।

इन शब्दों के साथ इस मंत्रालय ने जो डिमांड्स रखी हैं मैं उनका समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): Mr Chairman, Sir, with a view to provide increasing opportunities of employment to an increasing number of people by taking power into the villages, the Planning Commission decided on a programme of electrification of villages during the First Plan as well as the Second Plan period. During Second Plan period, the Government decided to take power into more than 1800 villages. And I also came to know that the Government appointed a Study Group to look into this problem and persuade the different State Governments to undertake the programmes of rural electrification. I have come to know from the different reports submitted by the different State Governments that in undertaking pro-

grammes for rural electrification, they are suffering from want of funds.

Government has said that different States have been asked to form State Electricity Boards. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in how many States State Electricity Boards have been really able to finance projects for rural electrification. I understand that due to paucity of funds it is not possible for the State Governments to carry out this programme. I apprehend that this programme of rural electrification is bound to suffer.

Members from all States, whenever they have any chance to speak on the subject of Irrigation and Power, have been urging upon the Government to reduce the rates of irrigation in different States. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any steps have been taken so far to reduce the rates of irrigation prevailing in different States today. We were told that the Government of India forwarded the recommendations of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee with regard to reduction of rates of electricity to the different State Governments. We want to know whether any of the State Governments, according to the direction from the Central Government, have been able to reduce the rates of electricity that prevailed in the States before the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee report was submitted. Another demand from the hon. Members is about the rationalisation of the rates of electricity prevailing in different States. I can cite an instance from my own State. In Orissa, the rate of electricity prevailing in the different parts of the State varies from six annas a unit to three annas to four annas a unit. In Orissa, power is being taken from Hirakud on the one side and from Machkund on the other, by those

private companies who are getting bulk supply of electricity from Hirakud and also in some cases from Machkund. In the case of Cuttack, they charge at the rate of six annas a unit for electricity supplied from Hirakud whereas in Jaipur itself, which is very near to Machkund, the rate of electricity per unit is four annas for domestic consumption. The rate varies. In Bhuwaneswar it is three annas. In Cuttack, which is eighteen miles from Bhuwaneswar, it is six annas. In Jaipur, it is four annas. In Puri, it is more than two annas. So, at least, some steps should be taken to rationalise the rates of electricity prevailing in at least the different parts of the same State.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khadesh): It is the work of the State Electricity Board.

Shri Panigrahi: State Electricity Boards are not functioning in some States. So far as my State is concerned, it is not functioning at all.

Sir, I was looking into the total number of major and medium projects which were taken up during the First and Second Five-Year Plans upto March, 1958 in the different States. You will be surprised to find that in the case of Andhra Pradesh, 31 projects were taken up but so far only 19 projects have been completed. I am talking about major and medium irrigation projects. In Assam, you will be surprised to find that no irrigation project was taken up—either major or medium—during the First Five Year Plan and during the Second Five-Year Plan periods so far. In Bihar, 27 projects were taken up but only 8 were completed. In Bombay, 75 projects were taken up but only 23 were completed. In Madhya Pradesh, 26 projects were taken up but only one was completed. In Orissa, three projects were taken up but none was completed. In Punjab, 13 projects were taken up, but only 7 have been completed. In Rajasthan 30 projects were taken up, but only 7 have been completed. In U.P., against 37 projects which were taken

up, only 18 were completed. In West Bengal, against 9 projects taken up, only 4 were completed.

You will be surprised to find from these figures that in Bombay the maximum number of projects were taken up and the minimum of lands were irrigated. In Punjab the irrigation created was really commendable. You will find from this policy of the Irrigation and Power Ministry that there are certain States where no projects have at all been taken up. Take the case of Assam. There, not a single major or medium irrigation project has been taken up. As for those States where these have been sanctioned and have been taken up, only a certain percentage of those projects have been completed. The hon. Minister was pleased to reply also in answer to a question that Government were not in a position to say when the rest of those projects were going to be completed.

Two years ago, that is, in 1957 July, an hon. Member of this House asked the acreage of lands irrigated from the different major projects in the different States. This was on 16th July, 1957. The hon. Member who asked that question was Shri S. V. Ramaswamy. Now, he has been promoted, and he is one of the Deputy Ministers. But, on 16th July, 1957, the hon. Minister promised that the information was being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House when ready. The hon. Member who asked that question is already a Deputy Minister, but the information has not so far been collected and laid on the Table of the House, and now, it is 1959.

Last year, I had also raised the question of the maximum utilisation of the surplus machinery and equipment lying in the different irrigation projects in this country. I was told that an officer had been appointed and he was going into this question. I would like to know from the hon. Minister for how many years this officer will be going into this question. Can we know positively from the hon. Minister the total worth of

[Shri Panigrahi]

machinery now lying idle in the different river valley projects, and how much of it has been put to maximum use in other projects which are being carried out in the different States? It will be of much use to us if this information is given, since we are in need of foreign exchange, and we need to import capital machinery from other countries.

I now come to the question of betterment levy. The other day, the hon. Minister said that in our country, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bombay, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh have passed legislations for imposition of betterment charges in respect of lands that have profited or benefited from the irrigation projects in the respective States. But in only one State, namely the State of Mysore, it is actually levied. But our Government have told us that they have not yet received the information from the Mysore Government.

I would like to submit that in the United States of America, no betterment levy is charged on those lands which are being irrigated from the irrigation projects; and the period of collection is from forty to fifty years. But, here, in our country, in the case of the Bhakra-Nangal project, for instance, even at the very moment of its completion, Government insists that the loan should be repaid, and, therefore, the Government of Punjab has been put in such an awkward position. I would like to point out that it is not a question of Punjab only. There are other States also where a similar question is coming up; it may come up today or it may come up tomorrow. So, Government should take a reasonable decision whether like the *Kabulipalla* Government will charge interest on the loans which are being advanced on development projects. We know that *Kabulipallas* are no there today in India; even if there are, they may be very few, but I think the Government of India should not replace

those who really charge usurious rates of interest on the peasant. I plead that Government should come to a definite conclusion as to whether the loans which are being advanced to the States shall be separated from those that have been advanced on account of the major river valley projects, so that the two categories of loans can be consolidated into two different funds, and in respect of those which have been given for purposes other than major river valley projects, the Central Government should insist upon the State Governments to make repayments.

With regard to the betterment levy, I would suggest, let the levy come after the betterment, not that the levy should precede betterment itself.

I shall now confine myself to a few points about Hirakud. We were told by the hon. Minister in reply to some of our questions that the third and fourth stages of the Hirakud project will produce enough electricity and the power needs in that region will be met. The hon. Minister must be aware that the present availability of electricity in the region of Hirakud falls short of 20,000 k.w. We were also told that from Hirakud itself power would be available for electrification of railways. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister, let us first meet the requirements of industry which is now growing around Hirakud. Government must be aware of the ferrochrome factory which is going to be established in Orissa, which requires about 20,000 k.w. And they are in search of power, because power has not been available to them for the last two years. The licence is there, but the licensee is not in a position to start this factory, because power is not available. Therefore, the Government of Orissa asked the Central Government to sanction at least a 65,000 k.w. thermal power station either near the Ramgiri colliery or near the Talcher colliery, because it will produce electricity at cheaper cost. But on the plea of foreign exchange not being

available, that demand has not been met by the Government of India, and, therefore, the industries are suffering.

I would like also to refer to the taxing mentality of Government. In this connection, I would like to refer to a recent news item published in *The Times of India*. When the Lower Bhavani project was constructed, some seepage of water took place. And the people in those areas utilised that seepage water from the Lower Bhavani project and irrigated about 50,000 acres of paddy land and made the State self-sufficient in paddy. Now, Government are thinking as to why these people utilised this seepage water; the water should have gone waste, why should the cultivators and peasants in those areas utilised that seepage water and produce paddy? So, Government are now deciding to tax those people, and to construct another channel so that the seepage water will go into that channel, and the people will be asked to pay money for using that water. I think this is a matter which needs consideration. What is this mentality. That whenever people use any water from anywhere, they must be taxed? Well, let us take into consideration the amount of foreign exchange which was saved by these peasants who utilised the seepage water which would otherwise have gone waste, and who produced paddy in 50,000 acres of land. I think Government should take into consideration this aspect of the problem also. With regard to flood control schemes, we were told that the Government of Orissa had requested for sanction of some more money, but the Government of India did not conform to their demands, and the sanction has been reduced. In the Second Plan period, Rs. 3.5 crores were originally allotted to the Government of Orissa for undertaking these flood control schemes. But, now, we hear that the Government of India are going to reduce this sum of Rs. 3.5 crores to less than Rs. 3 crores, that is Rs. 2 crores and odd. I would like to know from Government whether really

this is correct. Probably, the hon. Minister knows very well that the Orissa State has been suffering from floods for the last two hundred or three hundred years, and the people there have been suffering very much because of these floods and droughts almost every consecutive year in the State.

Once, the hon. Minister was pleased to convene a meeting of the Members of Parliament from Orissa to discuss the irrigation and flood control projects which are being carried out in that State. We are very glad over it, but the officers who came gave some promises in that meeting, and then went back, but none of the promises has yet been carried out. The hon. Minister was present at that conference and when we pressed for the *jamuacut* in the absence of which 50,000 acres of land are being flooded during the flood season, we were promised that it would be taken up immediately. I do not know what the definition of "immediately" is. Already one year has passed and no efforts have been made at least to undertake any preliminary earthwork for this *jamuacut*.

There is again the question of delta irrigation. The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 14 crores for this and we are glad, but you must see at least whether the money that you have sanctioned is being spent or not. In respect of this Rs. 14 crores, I pointed out last year that the progress of the work was not satisfactory, but the report of the State Government is that they are going to complete it by 1960-61. Only Rs. 2 crores have been spent so far. The people in those areas, whose lands were taken, are not being paid compensation since the last one year. Up to this time compensation for the land which has been taken amounts to Rs. 40 lakhs, but only Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 lakhs have been paid so far.

The Planning Minister assured us that so far as the earthwork on canals was concerned, labour cooperatives

[Shri Fanigrahi]

would be encouraged, but here Rs 14 crores are being spent and labour co-operatives are not being encouraged. If any labour co-operative comes forward, contractors come in and get preference for the earthwork.

These are the problems which need consideration, and because of this lack of check on the part of the Government of India here, the entire flood control projects or the works which were taken up in Orissa are not being expedited.

I can cite only one instance. In the village of Netapur all the villagers were assured of compensation being paid because due to delta irrigation canals they are going to shift from their village to another place. The Government has agreed to the principle, but three years have passed and no payment has been made to these villagers, and they are not able to shift to another place. They are not thatching their houses even. These are the things which Government should take into consideration.

One more point and I finish. It is with regard to the irrigation potential created. On the one hand, the demand for power is increasing at such a speed that all the power projects which were taken up by the Government in the different States are not in a position to meet the demand, on the other hand, irrigation potential is being created but it is not being utilised for years together. I hope this paradox will be solved.

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): To a mainly agricultural country like India, the Ministry of Irrigation and Power is perhaps the most important Ministry; to a State like Rajasthan which is predominantly, or at least vastly, a desert, I think the Ministers of Food and Agriculture can veritably be compared to the apostle of Lord Indra.

Up to now Rajasthan was a matter of shame as far as the desert was con-

cerned, to India, but ten years from today, thanks to the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, our desert will be turned into green fields and will become the pride of the nation.

The Rajasthan Canal planned to be the largest in the world is beginning to take shape. I was wondering whether the Ministry had also taken into consideration the question of linking up this canal with Kandla Port. The canal itself is very ambitious, but there is the possibility, if we spend a little more, of connecting Kandla with Delhi through Rajasthan, thereby giving Delhi a connection to the sea.

As far as the Rajasthan project is concerned, if we go through the report of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power for 1958-59 we see that the Rajasthan feeder is going to be 134 miles long, of which the first 110 miles will be in Punjab territory. This will be lined except for the first three miles. The report, however, does not say whether the Rajasthan Canal, 281 miles long lying in Rajasthan territory, is going to be lined or not. These 281 miles are through very sandy territory and very sandy tracts. The seepage loss will be considerable. In the former Bikaner State, almost 30 years ago when the Gang Canal was brought in, it was lined, and it was claimed to be the largest lined canal in the world at that time. I am wondering whether lining this portion of Rajasthan has also been considered.

If we go through the Second Five Year Plan we see that the amount of water resources in our country is considerable. The total river water resources in India were computed four years ago at 1356 million acre feet. The Report says:

"Investigations for an accurate assessment of water resources have begun and will continue during the Second Five Year Plan. Of the available supplies, it is estimated that approximately 450 million acre feet could be put to beneficial use.

Only 76 million acre feet had however been utilised up to 1951."

Considering that there is so much potential, I am wondering whether there is a chance that we will utilise, say, 75 per cent of this by the end of this Plan or the beginning of the Third.

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Of how much?

Shri Karni Singhji: Of 1356 million acre feet. If we examine the grants for the Rajasthan Canal for the Second Five Year Plan we will see that there is a provision of Rs. 18 crores for this project for the Second Plan period. The revised estimate for the current financial year is Rs. 2 crores, and a provision of Rs. 4.5 crores has been made for the year 1959-60. The expenditure incurred on this project both on the Punjab and Rajasthan portions till the end of December, 1958, which was only about four months ago, is only Rs 50.5 lakhs. We know that if the funds are not properly utilised, they will lapse and we have to have a new allotment; also this holds up the work and progress is slowed down. India to-day depends on foreign imports of food-stuffs, and anything that slows down our river valley projects or canals should not be tolerated. I would, therefore, request the Government to see that, wherever possible, these grants are fully utilised within the Plan period.

Further, the Rajasthan Canal is to irrigate 26.20 lakh acres and produce 9.5 lakh tons of food of the total value of Rs. 29 crores. We see that from the report of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power for 1958-59. A year ago when the Canal was launched, we were promised that approximately 35 lakh acres were going to be irrigated by this Canal, whereas in this report it is mentioned as 26.20 lakh acres. I would be grateful to know what is the position about this. I was also told that there is a chance that the

Rajasthan Canal would irrigate 50 lakh acres. Now that we are getting a move on with the work of the Rajasthan Canal, it becomes important at the same time that we start planning the other things like roads, railways, culverts, hospitals, schools etc. which should go with the planning of any canal. Our experience with the Bhakra Dam canal has been that this planning was not done properly and lagged behind. We find that even today certain roads and mandis have not been properly planned, and even culverts have not been made. I would therefore request Government that now that we are undertaking this world's largest canal project, this work and phased development should take place side by side.

It is a matter of great happiness that a man like Shri Kanwar Sain, thoroughly experienced in this work, has been appointed Chairman of the Rajasthan Canal Board. Now that we have a Chairman of such ability, I would request the Minister to see that he gets very wide powers to finish off this work. At the moment, we have seen that particularly at the State level, there is considerable bottleneck and red-tapism that slows down all the projects; no matter how hard the Central Government tries, it suffers from an acute frustration because it cannot get a move on. So I hope that with a man like Shri Kanwar Sain at the helm of affairs, the Minister will find a way out whereby he is given far wider powers than he has to-day so that this work goes on uninterrupted—and under the Union Minister's direction—so that in ten years' time or even earlier we can meet our food problem.

Another thing that comes along with this is the question of settling people. The Rajasthan Canal is going to run approximately 300 miles in Rajasthan all along the Pakistan border. It is almost waste land at the present moment and the question of settling people there is very important. I hope Government will consider this matter and see that the type of people who

[Shri Karni Singh:]

settle there are those who can withstand the rigours of the severe climatic conditions of Rajasthan, that those people will be able to settle there and thus produce more food. That should be a very important criterion.

Then comes the question of the betterment levy. In the former Bikaner State, when the Gang Canal was constructed 30 years ago, what was the rate charged? I will read out what was done

"The maximum demand both for proprietary rights and betterment levy was as follows. For old settlers, it was fixed at Rs. 130 per bigha. New settlers were required to pay only Rs. 200 per bigha as price fixed by Government rate, and no betterment levy. Now the position is that as against this, the present betterment levy is about Rs. 180 per bigha from the old settlers, apart from what the peasant has already paid for occupancy rights, and the new settlers have to pay Rs. 300 per bigha as price in addition to betterment levy of Rs. 180 per bigha."

It is understandable that when we are launching upon a project like this, betterment levy is inevitable. But I would suggest that considering the type of terrain through which this Canal is going to run, the people who will go there may find it difficult to get settled to start with, or may not find the countryside very comfortable to settle in. Therefore, some system may be worked out whereby this betterment levy could be charged after the water comes, so that the people get an idea of the benefits they are going to derive, and there will be no heart-burning in paying the levy. The period of years during which they are not going to charge could be spread over 10—15 years, and paid off in easy instalments.

Though not apparently concerned with this Ministry but perhaps intimately connected with it is the ques-

tion of agricultural colleges throughout this country. Now that our agriculture is expanding, it is imperative that agricultural colleges be started in places where people can derive the most use out of them. At the present moment, there is one agricultural college in Rajasthan situated in Udaipur where there is hardly any irrigation project, whereas in Northern Rajasthan serviced by three canal systems, not a single agricultural college exists. You know that we have the Suratgarh Farm which has 30,000 acres and is soon going to be probably one of the biggest in the East. I would request that an agricultural college be started somewhere close by, say, in Ganganagar or Suratgarh, so that the students would be able to derive benefits from this Suratgarh farm.

Coming back to the question of power, the progress of power, as far as Punjab is concerned, is more or less according to target. But so far as Rajasthan is concerned, matters are not moving as fast as they should. I had asked on the 28th August 1958 a question regarding the time by which the Bhakra power would be available to Rajasthan, and particularly to its tail end which terminates in Bikaner City. I was told that Bikaner, that is, the tail end of the line could expect to receive power from Bhakra in 1959. Subject to correction, this date was originally fixed sometime in 1956, but gradually it was shifted to 1959. Already three months have gone by and it is my fear that we may not be able to adhere to this target. I would therefore suggest to the Minister that while we have still 9 months before 1959 runs out, we can try as hard as possible so that the target is maintained.

I had taken up the question of generation of electricity by thermal power in some of these towns of Rajasthan with the Ministry of Irrigation and Power sometime last November. We discussed at length the

question of breakdown in the electricity last summer in Bikaner City and also Jodhpur. The Minister was good enough to give an assurance that something positive would be done this summer so that people did not have to go without water and electricity when the temperature went up to 120 degrees. We have already received notices from the Rajasthan Government to say that the electricity supply will be intermittent this summer. There is fear that it might even break down. I would therefore request that with the hot weather coming, the Central Government be good enough to do something positive in this regard.

Another point which is connected with hydro-electric power is the question of transmission lines that are now in the process of being laid. Rajasthan is going to get a fair share of Bhakra Nangal power. But I am afraid the lines that are being laid will not be sufficient to take the full load that may be required after the Rajasthan Canal comes and expansion of cities takes place. I would therefore request that this question may be borne in mind so that when the cities expand with prosperity from the Rajasthan Canal, the extra load can be met without having to incur expenditure in changing the lines later.

The question of maintaining thermal stations in some of these places in Rajasthan, e.g., Bikaner, Ganganagar etc.—in spite of hydro-electricity—is important because the transmission lines are affected due to desert storms which are very common during the months of hot weather there. At that time, you will find that there will be considerable breakdowns for quite some time. Unless we have some stand-by arrangement and maintain our original and existing thermal stations, we may find that the people will be put to a great deal of inconvenience.

This brings us to the question of atomic energy. A lot has been heard

and said these days about atomic energy. Even our Prime Minister had referred to a reply in Parliament. He said;

“Our calculations show that the costs compare very favourably. If the atomic power plant is put up not in a coal area where coal is there, not in an area where hydro-electric power is easily available, where probably they would not compare favourably. Suppose, broadly speaking, we put it somewhere in Rajasthan, somewhere far away from coal. They would probably be favourable.”

Of course, he was thinking aloud. But I am just venturing to suggest that this may perhaps be considered with a view to augment and supplement hydro-electricity. Bearing in mind the expansion due to the Rajasthan canals, Government might at some stage consider the putting up of an atomic power plant in Rajasthan desert so that the scarcity of electricity in some of these areas—and particularly for the purposes of lift irrigation from the Rajasthan canals area—could be met from this power source.

14 hrs.

I will once again refer to the brackish water area. I think this is about the sixth or the seventh time that I have raised this question and I need not elaborate on this subject. The hon. Minister was good enough to take a lot of interest when I raised this question in the Consultative Committee last November. There are areas in Rajasthan which come under the brackish water belt in the Lunkaransar area of Bikaner Division where, no matter how much money is spent on tube wells, the water that comes up cannot be drunk as it is brackish. When the temperature goes into the region of 120 degrees, people have to go from villages 10 to 20 miles just for drinking water. The Minister was good enough to take a keen interest. On humanitarian grounds alone and as a proof

[Shri Karni Singhji]

of a welfare State we expect that costs alone should not be taken into consideration but something positive be done in this direction

As a result of this question having been raised several times, would you be good enough to request Mr Kanwar Sain, who knows this lift irrigation question in the brackish water area very intimately, to submit a scheme to Parliament so that we can then put up our suggestions, and we may subsequently discuss them and offer our suggestions once we know the position? This matter has been going on like this for the past 6 or 7 years and, as far as I know, nothing positive has been done

In reply to my question in the Consultative Committee last November, it was said that, "attention was invited to the acute scarcity of drinking water in the brackish water area and the adjoining areas, and that this was considered. Every effort should be made, in a Welfare State to overcome a difficulty of this nature. It was explained that until perennial water and cheap power could be made available, it would be difficult to improve matters"

Both these points will be now available. We will have perennial water from the Rajasthan canals and also cheap power from Bhakra. I would therefore request you to call for a report from Mr Kanwar Sain and have the matter discussed here again.

I would conclude by congratulating you and your Ministry on what you have done. I think, taking everything into consideration, the nation may well feel proud of the achievements of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Of course it is very simple and easy to find fault with anything. But I feel that they deserve a pat on the back and I would take this opportunity of congratulating them on what they have done.

Mr. Chairman: All this reference to you in the debate should be taken to refer to the hon Minister and the congratulations also to the hon Minister.

Shri Karni Singhji: Sir, I should say one more thing. In conclusion we may justly congratulate ourselves as a Nation, we have achieved a great deal. We cannot achieve all our targets unless we get the co-operation from the States also. Therefore, I request you to find some way whereby we can get the co-operation, and people like Kanwar Sain and others in other parts of the country who are in charge of such projects should be given more powers so that they can work directly under you and deliver the goods.

Shri T. Subramanyam (Bellary): Irrigation and Power are very important basic sectors in the development of our economy. There is now practically a race between the increasing population on the one side and our capacity to create the irrigation potential on the other, and, at the same time, utilise all the facilities. That is the crux of the matter.

At the outset, I would like to say that all these irrigation projects large, medium or minor should come under one Ministry. Now, large and medium projects come under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and minor projects come under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. To have a co-ordinated and integrated plan for irrigation so that we have a full picture of our requirements and of our capacity to satisfy those requirements, I would strongly suggest that all these projects, large, medium and minor, should come under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

On major and medium projects with which we are now concerned immediately in this Ministry, we spent Rs 340 crores in the First Five Year Plan. In the second Five Year Plan they proposed to spend—they have made a provision of—Rs. 381 crores.

All told it comes to about Rs. 721 crores.

With regard to the potential, in the First Five Year Plan, they created a potential of 5 million acres under the major and medium projects. In the Second Plan, the irrigation potential is 10 million acres.

It is true that in the actual utilisation of these irrigation facilities there is a time lag. It depends upon the man-power available, the economic condition of the agricultural classes and the contour or the nature of the soil and all these factors. That was so previously in the development of any project. Therefore, it should not create in us any sense of depression or frustration if the development goes slow. Still we cannot afford to be complacent in this matter because, as I said, there is a race that exists between increasing population and the capacity to produce. Therefore, I suggest that all steps should be taken to fully and expeditiously utilise these irrigation facilities

The Ministry appointed a special committee to go into this matter and they suggested several steps. The State Governments were also advised to set up working groups to review the development work of each project. The working group consisted of the Development Commissioner and the heads of the departments of Agriculture, Irrigation and Co-operation. They have also been reviewing the development work and suggesting measures. The Planning Commission also, after consultations with some of the State Ministers, took some policy decisions. One of the important decisions is with regard to the creation of field channels.

Previously, this thing was almost neglected. Water was taken up to a point of discharge for a block of one hundred acres and then left there. The non-creation or the non-construction of these field channels was the

single greatest difficulty in the non-utilisation of the irrigation facilities. Luckily, that has been tackled now and we have a survey or the alignment of these field channels. It has been made the responsibility of the State Governments. They are actually constructed at the cost of the agriculturist. If the agriculturist does not construct it, the State Government constructs it and recovers the necessary expenditure.

I am concerned intimately with one very major irrigation project, the Tungabhadra project. I have been seeing it from stage to stage. I am glad to say that during the last few years, the development work has been heartening and the utilisation of the facilities has also been encouraging. Demonstration farms have been started and funds have been made available by the Central Government to the various State Governments to the tune of Rs 300 crores, for this purpose

I would like to mention one other matter in this connection. That relates to roads, communications and marketing facilities. Recently, I toured this area which has been irrigated by the Tungabhadra canals. I find the roads are very bad. Not only inter-village communications but also roads from the villages to the fields. Due to seepage the roads have become slushy and carts cannot pass. The agriculturist finds it very difficult to take either manure or seeds to the field. There is this difficulty in getting the harvested produce also to the villages. It has become a very difficult proposition. I suggest that the Central Government should ask the State Governments to get the progress of the construction and completion of these roads under the various projects reviewed periodically

In this connection, I would take up the question of water-logging. This has been due to the sub-soil water level rising and so on. That has been very harmful to the crops and also the foundations of buildings. Salts also

[Shri T Subramanyam]

begin to appear due to the evaporation. Whole village have had to be vacated on account of that. Large acres of land had been rendered unfit for cultivation on account of salts coming up. Good crops used to be raised from these lands. But they have now suddenly become unfit for cultivation. I suggest that statistics should be acquired from all the State Governments with regard to such lands which have been badly affected due to water logging. I am told that in October 1957, the worst affected areas were Punjab, West Bengal and UP followed by Bombay, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Orissa, etc. Lakhs of acres have been affected like this. The Chief Engineers of the various States may have been asked to provide the necessary information and details with regard to the lands that have been affected by this water logging or by these salts. If this information is secured, we are told that an appraisal of the situation could be made and proposals for anti-water-logging measures will be taken. At present there is no separate allocation to deal with this problem of water-logging. They have to take money from some other head. Since it is a very serious thing which affects lakhs of acres there should be definite and specific allocation to deal with the problem which is increasing day by day. Otherwise these lands become absolutely unfit for cultivation or irrigation purposes.

In this connection, one friend has mentioned that lands which have been affected by seepage may be allowed to be irrigated. There should not be any difficulty, I think, with regard to that problem. People whose lands are affected by seepage should be allowed to grow paddy if it can be usefully done. With regard to the collection of the usual rates, there should not be penalty rates, there should not be any harsh or rigorous methods. There should be a lenient and reasonable method of dealing with such

people and they should be allowed to grow paddy on such lands.

We are trying to create irrigation potential and we also try to avail of the facilities provided by irrigation. In this connection I want to refer to the Tungbhadra project which provides to irrigate 8.25 lakhs of acres at present. There is a high level canal project. There is a low level canal on the right bank and another on the left bank. Then there is provision in the dam itself for sluices to let in water to the high-level canal. It has a reservoir of 146 square miles; it is one of the biggest reservoirs. I submit that we should make the *maximum utilisation of the waters* in this great reservoir. The area through which the high level canal passes is a famine affected area, in fact the project was originally meant to serve the famine affected districts, it was a long range famine relief measure. Therefore, this high-level canal is an absolute necessity. It was originally planned to be taken in one stage but now it seems it will be taken in two stages. In the first stage we are told that about 68,000 acres in Bellary district of Mysore State would be taken up, and in the next stage Bellary district and the adjoining districts of Andhra Pradesh State would be brought under additional irrigation and it would be above 3.5 lakhs of acres. This project should be implemented as early as possible. Synchronising with the digging up of the high-level canal, we should take immediate steps to see that these distributaries and minors are attended to so that there may not be the usual time-lag which we see in the other projects in the utilisation of the irrigation facilities. There is so much shortage in our food production. We have had the experience of building these projects and we can look up to the future with greater hope because we have got experienced and trained personnel. Technological surveys have been rendered easier, planning is easier. They can now make detailed investigations and there will be no

need to have large variations in estimates as we have been seeing hitherto.

I would like to say a word with regard to the National Projects Construction Corporation. It has been constituted to fully utilise the advantages of the departmental construction and the flexibility of private construction agencies so that optimum utilisation may be made of the trained personnel and also maximum utilisation of the surplus machinery available in large projects like Hirakud, Bhakra-Nangal and the DVC. We were told that Rs. 2.5 crores worth surplus machinery has been transferred to other projects where they were necessary. It is true we have not got a large number of contractors to be able to take up big projects in all these areas. Therefore, this is a very welcome measure and I hope all the States will now join. Only a few States have joined this corporation. Profit-making is not the main motive of this corporation but still we were told that in 1958 it distributed a dividend to the tune of 2½ per cent to the Central Government and to the subscribing State Governments. *

The Tungbhadra workshop is an excellent one. It was started with the idea of manufacturing towns, hoists, and sluice gates and floodgates. Orders have been pouring in from Chambal and other projects. I would suggest that full utilisation must be made of the facilities provided under the project.

Now, with regard to power utilisation, I submit that the measure of the level of prosperity of a State is indicated by the amount of power consumed. It is no use comparing the power consumed in countries like Norway, Sweden, USA and others. The State Governments are trying to establish grids so that they may integrate the various hydro electric stations and thermal power generating stations in the States. The future will tend towards creating regional grids covering three or four States.

Ultimately it is our hope that we must have an All India grid. The present position in the States is that the demand is outrunning production. It is so in every State. Let me take Mysore State. It has got vast potentialities of hydro-electric power. The present installed capacity is 179,000 k.w.s. Sivasamudram project's capacity is 42,000 k.w.s., Mahatma Gandhi Hydro Electric project, 1,20,000 k.w.s. and Shimsa, 17,000 k.w.s. Still there is shortage and the agriculturists are prepared to take electric current even at night for their irrigation purposes. Even then it is not available and the development of industry is also lagging behind. In the Tungbhadra project on the right bank side there is a generating station at the demand another at Hampi and we are producing about 36,000 k.w.s. of which Mysore gets 20 per cent. and another provision for 18,000 k.w.s. on the left bank side. Still at the end of the Second Plan period, our shortage for power will be there and it will be nearly 2 lakhs of k.w.s. The Shrivati project is the only solution to this problem. I am glad the Irrigation Ministry had taken a helpful attitude. At every stage they have tried to see that it is completed within the time schedule, and foreign exchange also is made available. I am glad and it has been really heartening. And, according to schedule in the first stage we are going to have 1,78,000 k.w.s. of power. It will go to some extent to meet the increasing demand. When fully developed this project will have ten generating units each unit producing about 89,000 k.w.s. This will be the largest generating station in India producing the cheapest current. For developing agriculture or industry in this part of the country, this is an absolute necessity. Therefore, Sir, I congratulate the Ministry and express our sense of gratitude that they have done everything possible to help in the completion of the project according to schedule. I would only like the Minister for Irrigation to make a statement with regard to this, that there is no difficulty, the necessary foreign exchange has been

[S'ri T. Subramanyam]

secured and that it will be completed according to plan.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Thanulingam Nadar—this is the hon Member's maiden speech.

Shri Thanulingam Nadar (Nagercoil): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I take this opportunity to draw the attention of this Ministry to some of the irrigation and power schemes proposed by the Madras Government. The Madras Government has almost exhausted all the irrigation and power resources available within the boundary of the State. The State has now to depend for its irrigation resources on Andhra, Mysore or Kerala. The Andhra Government, of course, is quite willing to share the excess waters of Kistna river, but the Madras Government is of the opinion that it is too costly.

In Kerala there are vast resources for irrigation. That is a small State very near the coast with plenty of rivers, some of them are even perennial immediately after the hills there are the lakes. The distance between the lakes and hills is not much. Therefore, the rivers take their sources in the hills and immediately fall into the sea on the west. The waters of such rivers can be usefully diverted to the eastern side of those ghats, that is, Madras.

Four districts Tinneveli, Madura, Ramnad and Coimbatore, each with a population of 30 lakhs to 40 lakhs, are the most dry areas of the Madras State. There is plenty of land. The only thing required is to provide irrigation facilities, and that is available in the Kerala State. Five such proposals seem to have been made by the Madras Government. They are: (1) the Parambikulam Scheme about which the governments of Kerala and Madras have come to an agreement, (2) the Punalur project, (3) the Pambayar project, (4) the Upper Periyar project and (5) the Kallar project. All these projects are highly

economical and highly useful, both for Kerala State as well as Madras State.

The peculiarity is that the Kerala State cannot use these waters for any other purpose than, if at all, for power because there is no land available in Kerala. The problem is that there is plenty of water in Kerala but no land, whereas in Madras there is plenty of land but no water.

An Hon Member: Both should be combined.

Shri Thanulingam Nadar: If both these States combine and they put their heads together things will improve. You all know that Madras is a deficit State, and Kerala is still worse deficit State in rice. If the border areas of Kerala—that is, Madras—by these waters become more fertile and produce more rice, a part of the benefit will go to Kerala.

But there is another difficulty. At the beginning of this discussion the hon Speaker was pleased to observe that there is no question of politics in irrigation and power. But I doubt whether this will apply to Kerala. I am not referring to the present Government. There is no question of politics between Government and Government, but the internal politics of Kerala is so hopeless that it stands in the way of these agreements being reached between the two States. In regard to the Parambikulam scheme itself they have come to an agreement only after bargaining for two years. Ultimately even the Zonal Council had to interfere. What is this due to? If one party which is in power comes to an agreement with another State to share the waters or any other thing, the party in the Opposition complain that the party in power has given all waters to the other State, everything has gone phut, thus, that and the other, with the result that the party in power is afraid to come to an agreement. I am not referring to

any particular party. But that is the situation. It is the Communist Party that is now in power. The party by itself is not against it. But it is afraid of the Congress Party. Therefore, in respect of the Parambikulam scheme itself it so happened that the party in power convened an all-party meeting to discuss the question.

Shri Panigrahi: What did the Congress do?

Shri Thammalingam Nadar: Either the PSP will not take part in it or the Congress will not take part in it. Finally, the local Congress was so influenced as to pass a separate resolution in their party meeting agreeing to this scheme, and then the Communist Party had to agree to this agreement. It took two years. That was a scheme included in the Second Five Year Plan and it was delayed for two years. They are now going to hurry it up. But the difficulty is that the internal politics there will affect very seriously this project and the efforts of the two governments in the execution of this scheme. Therefore, my request is, this is a fit case where the Central Government should interfere, not as a supreme authority or anything like that but with its goodwill it can smoothen and expedite the agreement. In that way it can try to do something to Madras as well as Kerala.

Sir, in Kerala the water is a nuisance. They have got their Master Plan and all that. It may be good for electricity, but where is the space for irrigation? I know something about Kerala. Before reorganisation I was in the Travancore-Cochin State. In the old central Travancore the problem is not one of want of water, but it is a problem of nuisance of water. Much damage is caused by rain water destroying paddy fields. There they pump out water and cultivate. In the rainy season the whole thing is damaged by rain water. If that is prevented or checked, it is to the advantage of Kerala and, at the same time, it will serve the purpose of Madras also. If the border areas

of Kerala produce more rice as a result of this scheme, the food deficit in Kerala will be minimised and their difficulty, in regard to water nuisance will also be minimised.

Therefore, I would appeal to the Kerala Government and also to the Central Government to approach this problem in a wise and cool manner and see that these proposals made by the Madras Government are agreed to as early as possible, so that they can at least be included in the Third Five Year Plan and work started from the very beginning of the Plan.

Another point is this. The Kanya Kumari district to which I belong was formerly in the Travancore-Cochin State. It forms part of the Madras State only since the reorganisation of States. Certain schemes there have been investigated, namely, Chittar I and II. Now, they have to get fresh permission and sanction from the Central Government so as to include these schemes in the second Five Year Plan. Since this area was in *Travanku Svargam* and belonged neither to the Madras State nor to the Travancore-Cochin State, none of the authorities cared to investigate further. Now, they have been investigated and detailed estimates have been submitted. It may be that the Madras Government will ask for sanction to include them in the second Five Year Plan. Therefore, I request this Ministry to give sanction as early as possible.

I would also like to associate myself with the opinion expressed by the previous speaker who spoke just before me about minor irrigation. I do not understand why it should form part of another Ministry, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. There is one Ministry for Irrigation. Why should the minor irrigation work alone form part of another Ministry then? When it is minor irrigation, people immediately think that it is the duty of the Irrigation Ministry to look into it. When we go to the Irrigation Ministry they say "it is not

[Shri Thanuningam Nadar]

our matter" and that it comes under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture I do not understand this. It is deceiving the people. What purpose does it serve? Nobody has explained that also, nobody has said what the benefit of this procedure is. Only there is confusion and want of co-ordination. So, it is high time that the Government thought over this thing and reallocated minor irrigation to the Irrigation Ministry itself so as to have co-ordination.

With these words, I once again request the Ministry to exercise and use its good offices in bringing a rapid, quick agreement between the Madras and Kerala Governments on diverting the west-flowing waters to the Madras State.

Shri Hathi: Mr Chairman, Sir, I have heard with keen attention the speeches made by the various hon Members, and I am really thankful to them for the suggestions they have made. I am also grateful to them for the kind words they had to say for the working of the Ministry. There have been no doubt some suggestions which are really useful ones and which we shall bear in mind.

Hon Members have referred to various questions, beginning from the question of international importance, such as the canal water dispute, they referred to the utilisation of water, the rates of electricity, flood control works and also to individual projects in their constituencies. With the limited time at my disposal, I shall try to reply to as many points as I could possibly do, but if by chance I cannot reply to all the points on either projects or other aspects, that does not in the least mean that we are minimising the importance of these projects, for, we know that however minor a project may be, every acre-foot of water that that reservoir fills and with it every acre of land that it irrigates will be additional production and potential for the country. Similarly on the power side also, every cusec

of water that falls upon the turbine to move the wheels of power will add to the development of small and big industries and for the development of the country as a whole. It is therefore that I submit that if I do not mention any particular project it is not in the least my intention that we are minimising their importance. It may be only for want of time.

Some hon Members have referred to the power development in the country and the pace at which we are moving. As the House is aware, before the first Plan, the total generation of power, both thermal and hydel, was 2.3 million kilowatts. In the first Plan we added 1.1 million kilowatts making it 3.4 million kilowatts. In the second Plan we have a target of adding 3.5 million kilowatts more of power, bringing it to a total of 6.9 million kilowatts. That means we will be having three times the power that existed in 1951. But when we compare, as various hon Members have done, the per capita consumption in India with that in other countries of the world, we find that we lag far behind. The per capita consumption of our country was about 14 units before the first Plan, 25 units at the end of the first Plan, and it might be 50 by the end of the second Plan. But when we look to the figures of per capita consumption in other countries of the world, we should feel that there is yet much scope for us to go ahead with the development of the water resources. Secondly, with the water resources that are available, we have a power potential of about 40 million kilowatts. If all this water could be utilised, naturally we will be in a position where we can outstrip the power generation in any other country of the world. But, as the hon Members know for power generation of that magnitude, it requires resources. And with the limited resources at our disposal, we are trying to add as much as we could. If all the circumstances are favourable, the Ministry may even

think of doubling the present power in the third Five Year Plan; from 6.5 it may even go to 12 or 13 million kilowatts. It all depends. But that is what the Ministry thinks in terms of the generation of power

So far as rural electrification is concerned, many of the hon Members have touched the point, and rightly so. Power generation is not primarily or mainly for the big factories. We want really that power should reach the innermost corners of the country. The villages should be electrified, and unless the agriculturists and the people who are engaged on small and cottage industries get cheaper power, it would not be said that we have tried to ameliorate the standard of living of those people who live on agriculture which is the backbone of the economy of our country. With this purpose in view, the Government of India have given very careful consideration as to how this power could be made cheaply available and how we could extend the power facilities in the various villages where millions of our people live.

As the House knows, the number of villages electrified at the end of the first Plan was about 7,900. During the second Plan, we hope to add 10,600 villages more and the total will be about 18,500.

Shri Panigrahi: How much have you achieved so far?

Shri Hathi: Out of this, about 14,300 villages have been electrified. That is the actual number now.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pal): The question raised is that the generation of power has been absolutely lop-sided and vast areas and districts have been completely left out. Before he passes over to another point, I want to know this.

Shri Hathi: I am coming to all the points that the hon. Member has in mind. I know his point is about Jodhpur . . .

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am not thinking of Jodhpur; we are getting a power house.

Shri Hathi: So far as power for small-scale industries and agricultural purposes is concerned, the Agriculture Ministry and the Commerce and Industry Ministry have issued instructions to various States concerned that the power to the villages for agricultural purposes and small-scale industries should be at a lower rate than the rate for domestic purposes. I would like to give some figures for the various States. The rates for domestic purposes, small-scale industries and agricultural purposes respectively are Andhra 5 annas, 2 25 annas and 1 50 annas and downward; Assam 6.40, 2.8 and 2.8; Bengal 6, 3.5 and 2.8 and downwards—as more power is used, the rate is lesser; Bihar 4, 2 and 2; Madhya Pradesh 5, 2 and 2, Mysore 4, 1 and 0 75, Orissa 4, 1 50 and 1 50; Punjab 5.25, 1 75 and 1 50; Rajasthan 6, 3 and 3, U.P. 5.50, 1 75 and 1 55. Where the cost of power generation is higher, the charges are determined according to that.

It has been suggested that we should evolve a procedure whereby it should be possible to have a uniform rate at least in that particular State, if not in the zone. With the formation of State Electricity Board for the whole State, it may be possible to have that formula evolved. It may not be immediately done, but it may be possible when there is a common grid and then the rate may not be at great variance compared to other parts in the same State. There might be some exceptional cases where the thermal power may be costly on account of the transportation of coal, but if we reach that position where it is possible to have a common grid for that zone or at least for the major part of the State from a big hydro-electric or thermal power house, it may be possible to achieve that object. The Ministry is alive to this problem and we are thinking as to how best thing can be achieved.

14.45 hrs.

[Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Shri Hariish Chandra Mathur: Is he aware that in spite of the fact that the Commerce and Industry Ministry are giving subsidies for cottage industries, that subsidy has not been utilised in many of the States even to the extent of 50 per cent, because most of the districts have got no electricity whatsoever? Has he got any policy on this matter that at least some power is generated in all the districts or is it only lopsided development?

Shri Hathi: The question of charging a rate would only arise if power-supply is there. If it is a place where there is no supply of power, naturally the question of charging a rate or giving subsidy would not arise. So, it is a question quite apart from fixing a uniform rate.

The other question was about the vast potential for hydro-power generation in the country that we have. It is true that we have been utilising very little of the water resources available. But during the last ten years, we are trying to see that we utilise more and more of water resources for power-generation. In 1951, the ratio of thermal power to hydro-power was 76.24. At the end of the first Plan, it was 77.28. On 31st March, 1958 it was 70.30. At the end of the second Plan, it would be 56.44. That means we are increasing the Hydro-power generation and we are trying to utilise as much resources as possible and go on decreasing thermal generation.

I shall now come to the observations made by various hon. Members. Mr. Iqbal Singh suggested the reorganisation of the Central Water and Power Commission, so as to give more powers for designing, check and supervision. I may submit that a committee has already been appointed, which looks into the question of reorganisation and as soon as we get the

report, it will be considered by Government. Regarding designs, almost all the States have agreed as a rule and by practice they have been sending their designs for checking by the C.W.P.C. There is also another procedure evolved by which all the projects included in the second Plan or the coming Plan are being examined by the C.W.P.C. That means they check the designs and give all sorts of technical help that the State Governments require.

Another point he suggested is that there should be river-wise investigation and not according to individual States. The C.W.P.C. have been doing such an investigation. We have got six zones—the west-flowing rivers flowing into the Arabian Sea, the east-flowing rivers flowing into the Bay of Bengal, the Indus basin, the Ganga basin, etc. These are again subdivided into 10 zones and work is being carried on on each zone by the C.W.P.C.

He also referred to the rates of power for agricultural purposes and small-scale industries. Then, Mr. Barman raised a point about the flood control works undertaken by the Ministry and the various States concerned. He suggested that while the towns of Cooch-Bihar and Jalpaiguri have been benefited, the villages have yet to get the benefit. In so far as that particular constituency of his may be concerned, it may be that more villages have not been benefited. But so far as the country as a whole is concerned, since 1954, 62 major flood protection schemes costing about Rs. 27 crores and 513 minor schemes costing about Rs. 11 crores have been undertaken in different States. In all about 2,500 miles of embankments have been constructed. Whereas the number of town construction schemes is 48, the number in the case of villages is 4,200. As a result thereof, 31 lakhs of persons in various villages have been protected and about 50 lakhs acres of land have been saved. But this is mainly a question which pertains to the State

Governments. They have to formulate their own plans for flood control. The machinery that has been evolved is that each State has a State Flood Control Board, which formulates plans and sends them to the C.W.P.C. When the schemes are taken up financial assistance is given. In a case if there is imminent danger the Central Flood Control Board or the C.W.P.C. would look into this particular case and see what could be done for it.

Then there is a high level flood committee which has been appointed to collect plans from various States. They have given their comments on the plans that have been submitted. Whenever the schemes are formulated, they will be considered by the C.W.P.C. and the Central Flood Control Board.

Then, Sardar Saigal raised a point about the per capita consumption of electricity, to which I have already replied. He also referred to two schemes—Hasdeo and Arpa schemes. So far as Hasdeo scheme is concerned, the investigation is going on and when reports are received by the Central Water and Power Commission for examination they will be scrutinised and if the project is found technically feasible we will take it up. We are interested in all projects in all parts of the country which are technically sound. So, we shall give due consideration to them.

Shri D. C. Sharma: How long will the investigation take?

Shri Hathi: That is being done by the State Government. He also referred to Arpa and some minor schemes.

Then he referred to the surplus machinery. In this connection, I wish also to take up the point raised by Shri Panigrahi. He said that an officer has been appointed and he wanted to know how long that officer will take. I do not know when he asked the question about this. But this officer has been appointed some two months back only. Before he gives his report he has to tour round the country. Then, the term of his appointment

is only three months. So, it will take one month more. But there is no reason why we should be in such a great hurry. The impression that I gathered, as also gathered by the other hon. Members, by his speech was that the officer has been appointed since years and still no report has been forthcoming. So I repeat that he has been appointed only two months back.

Here I may say that even before that we had a directorate in the C.W.P.C. The practice and procedure is that all the States have to inform the C.W.P.C. of the surplus machinery they have and before a State is allowed to purchase new machinery or an import licence is given, we verify whether such a type of machinery exists in the country. In that case, no new machinery is allowed to be imported. In this way we have saved about Rs. 3 crores, by using surplus machinery of Damodar Valley, Bhakra, Hirakud, Chambal, Tungbhadra and Nagarjunasagar. We have seen that the country is saved Rs. 3 crores by this exchange of machinery from one project to another.

The other point that he referred was about the Mahanadi development stages. Shri Panigrahi suggested just now that I replied that the third and fourth stage of Mahanadi Valley Development will give sufficient power and that there will be no shortage. This is a matter of very recent memory and, therefore, I quite remember what reply I had given and what question he had put. Though he might like to put some words into my mouth, what I remember is that I never mentioned that these schemes would do away with the shortage; nor did I say that these schemes were to be taken up immediately. The question that he asked was:

“May I know, Sir, what are the schemes which have been included in stages III and IV of the Mahanadi Valley Development Project, and whether any of the schemes have been surveyed at all?”

[Shri Hathi]

In reply to that I said:

"Stage III of the Mahanadi Valley Development includes the utilisation of the tail waters of the Chiplima Power House and a power house to be constructed near Dulesar. The IVth stage contemplates that the water which will be released from Dulesar will again be utilized at Tikkarpara and power generated."

Then there was another question:

"May I know whether any such scheme will be contemplated in the Third Five Year Plan?"

My reply was

"We have not received any scheme, but the Orissa Government are preparing schemes for the Mahanadi Valley Development (Stages III and IV)."

So, I fail to understand how it came upon Shri Panigrahi to remember that I replied that these two schemes will do away with the power shortage in Orissa. In fact, we know that the consumption of power, the utilisation of power, not only in Orissa but in all parts of the country, is going on at such a rapid pace that it is difficult for us to cope with the demand for consumption of power. I never said that this one scheme or that scheme will do away with the need for power in any part of the country. What I feel is that even if you generate twice what you are generating today, that power will be utilized as soon as it is generated.

There was a time when I remember Members from this House as well as the other House asked a number of questions as to how the D.V.C. power is going to be utilized, where it is going to be utilized and so on. A lots of questions were asked and every now and then we had to say that it will be consumed. We said "let the power grow". As the demand for power is growing at such a rapid pace it is difficult for us to cope up with the demand. So, there is no question of

my saying that this scheme or that scheme is going to wipe out the power shortage. On the contrary, I still feel that more power will have to be immediately generated. After the Chiplima scheme is complete, it will give us 72,000 K.W. With the fifth set at Hirakud the power house will generate another 37,500 K.W. Here I may say that the Government is still thinking of adding a sixth set in the Hirakud project. If possible, we would even like to do that. In principle, we think it is necessary. So, I never said that the power shortage of Orissa will be met by Hirakud. In fact, the shortage is there everywhere. But, I was rather surprised at the way in which the hon. Member tried to put words in my mouth which I generally do not say. The Irrigation and Power projects, as the hon. the Speaker was pleased to remark in the beginning, do not at all think in terms of party politics. After all, it is development of the country as a whole. I was rather surprised that the hon. Member tried to make a number of insinuations also.

Shri Panigrahi: May I submit, Sir, I made no insinuations? I only pointed out .

15 hrs.

Shri Hathi: He said, is the Minister aware that this Aluminium factory will require so much; how does he think that this will be met. He put a number of questions about machinery and said, I do not know how long it will take for the officer. The officer has been appointed only two months back

Shri Panigrahi: On a point of information, Sir, I submit . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has seen that the hon. Minister is not yielding. Therefore, in the end, he may say. I will give him an opportunity.

Shri Hathi: I do not want to irritate the hon. Member in any way. But, what I feel is that I did not say those words about shortage of power or

these things. He wanted 65,000 kw. of thermal power. In reply I say, we are thinking of adding 37,500 kw. more power. I think that will suffice for the purpose.

Shri Karni Singhji mentioned about the Rajasthan canal. That is no doubt a very important canal, a canal which will be the longest in the world, which will turn Rajasthan, the so-called desert, into the garden of India and the granary of India. We are all keen to see that that project is carried on as expeditiously as possible and as efficiently as possible and that we reap the benefits of this canal as early as possible. It is for that purpose, as he mentioned, that they have appointed one of the topmost Engineers, Shri Kunwar Sain as Administrator. As regards the suggestion that he has made that we should make some drinking water arrangements, as far as I remember, some provision has been made for giving water from the canal for drinking water purposes. It was only a question that there should be some perennial supply from some source. Otherwise, lift irrigation becomes costly. We shall look into the matter. About the lining of the canal, the first 134 miles will be lined.

Shri T. Subramanyam mentioned about the High level canal. As I have said more than once in this House, the whole project has been approved and sanctioned. We shall so phase it that the first stage will give benefit both to Mysore and Andhra. He also suggested about Sharavathi. So far as Sharavathi is concerned, we have announced in this House that there are seven projects which were not included in the core of the Plan. But taking into consideration the fact that these projects, are cheap projects and that unless we take these projects, not only will the target of the Second Plan suffer, but even we may suffer at the end of the Third Plan. The Planning Commission has agreed in principle that these seven projects should be taken up. Sharavathi is one of those projects. I think tenders have been invited and orders will be placed very soon.

425 LSD—6

Shri Thanulingam Nadar discussed about the question of inter-statal relations, mainly between Kerala and Madras. In this connection, I may submit that, of late, during the last two or three years, I am happy to say, that there has been a good atmosphere, a very healthy atmosphere between various States where all questions of inter-state relations or inter-state development of river valley projects are being solved on a co-operative basis. He referred rightly to the agreement between Kerala and Madras on the sharing of the water of Chalakudi basin. It is a good sign symbolic of our hopes and aspirations of greater co-operation between neighbouring States. Similarly, in the Tungabhadra project, we have got complete agreement between Mysore and Andhra. In Gandak, we had only a few days back complete agreement between U.P. and Bihar; on the Bhadra, recently between Mysore and Andhra. The long outstanding 100 year old dispute between Mysore and Madras on the Palar waters has been solved. These six were some of the outstanding questions which have been solved in a spirit of accommodation, co-operation and goodwill. Let us hope that this spirit will continue and that an Act of Parliament which enables the Central Government to start arbitration proceedings or appoint an arbitrator or take certain proceedings may not be needed, provided the States go in the spirit which they have evinced during the last 2 or 3 years. I am sure that regarding the sharing of the waters of other rivers also, the States will move with the same spirit of co-operation that they have evinced till now.

There were questions raised about the utilisation of water. It is true that in the First Five Year Plan, although we created a potential of about 5 million acres, the actually irrigated area was much less. It was 2.9 million acres. Since then, the States and the Central Government have been taking active steps to see that the water that is stored is being utilised. With that end in view, we

[Shri Hathi]

have had a number of discussions with the State Governments at the Planning Commission. We also appointed two special officers to tour round the country and see actually what were the difficulties that came in the way and how best this could be solved. They have submitted reports. Even before that, steps have been taken and decisions were being implemented. The main thing that has to be done, as the House knows and the Members also know is, we must see that the excavation and construction of canals synchronise with the construction of the dam. That is the first thing to be done. The second thing is, the field channels have to be excavated. The cultivators find it difficult to do so. Wherever it was found that it is difficult, it was decided that the project authorities should do it, on behalf of the cultivators, because they may not. Wherever it is possible, if the Gram panchayats or local people come forward, then also, the project authorities should give them all co-operation and technical advice, so that they would be ready by the time the canal and the distributors become ready.

The other point is, every project should have a Development committee at the State level. The construction authorities should intimate to that committee what will be the quantity of water released at a particular period of time so that by that time, they should be ready. For instance, in Chambal, we have phased a four year programme, 1960 to 1963. Maps have been prepared and given to each Collector saying that water in a particular area will come by 1960, by 1961, by 1962 and by 1963 so that by that time all the necessary field channels, demonstration farms, levelling, seeds may be prepared and the project authorities may be ready. So, that is the step which we have taken so far as this matter is concerned.

Then, there was one question that was raised about efficiency and economy. I would not dwell at length

on the various steps that have been taken. But there are one or two things which I would like to bring to the notice of this House. Some of them have been referred to by Shri T. Subramanyam. That is, he referred to the National Projects Construction Corporation. This is a Corporation in which the shares are held both by the Centre and the States. They are undertaking work of the various projects. The idea behind it was that the surplus personnel, machinery and man-power could all be utilised and that if there was one such machinery it could go from project to project. The result was that it has been able to bring down the rates. In Kosi barrage for example, the rate which the contractor gave was ninety per cent higher than the estimated rate. The National Construction Corporation brought down the rate at twenty per cent higher only. That means, a margin of seventy per cent. In Chambal also, they have been doing very good work with the result that the overhead charges and the middlemen's profits have been eliminated; and the work and the efficiency of the work has also increased. The people themselves, joining together and forming various co-operative societies, help in the expeditious and efficient handling of the various projects.

Then, as you know, Sir, various committees have been appointed by the Planning Commission to look into the various projects. Shri Gadgil was Chairman of a Committee. There were other engineers. They had gone round and inspected two projects—the Lakhavalli project in Mysore State and Chambal project in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Various suggestions have been made. I think that report has been placed in the Library. Various suggestions made therein have been implemented by the Ministry.

I think I have dealt with all the points, except two or three points,

which my senior and esteemed colleague will deal with. As is the practice with this Ministry, all the points that have been raised by hon. Members will be carefully looked into. Reply will be sent to each hon. Member whose point has not been covered here, because, it is not possible for me to deal with all the points that have been raised by hon. Members. So, those points will be replied to. Major points will be replied to by my esteemed and senior colleague.

Shri Panigrahi: Sir, on a point of personal explanation I made no such remark, which the hon. Minister characterised as 'insinuating'. I

referred to the Starred Question No. 88 dated the 16th July, 1957. Information was asked about the total irrigated land under the major projects and the answer was given that the information was being collected, and that when it was ready it would be placed on the Table of the House. We are in 1959 and yet the information has not been collected. That is my point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The following are the selected cut motions relating to the Demands under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power which may be moved subject to their being otherwise admissible:

Demand No.	No. of Cut Motion
64	364, 365, 768, 769, 770, 828, 829, 834, 835, 836, 837, 839, 840, 841, 879, 880, 881, 882, 945, 946
65	292, 293, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 832, 897, 898, 899, 948
66	777, 778, 779
126	745, 833,

The number of the selected cut motions will be put on the Notice Board for the information of Members.

Failure to construct canals from the rivers Mahi, Sabarmati, Banas and Saraswati

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide electricity in villages of Gujarat, Bombay State

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for an early settlement of Indo-Pakistan Canal Water dispute

Shri F. K. Dee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of nationalising all private electric supply companies in Orissa

Shri F. K. Dee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of exempting the Orissa Government from forming the electricity board under section 5(1) of the Electricity (Supply) Act

Shri F. K. Dee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of utilising power for small irrigation schemes in rural areas

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to work out any irrigation schemes in the district of Purulia, West Bengal

Shri E. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to give top priority to Rihand Dam of Uttar Pradesh in the matter of foreign exchange requirements

Shri Sarju Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to arrange the foreign exchange for the Doharighat Pum Cana, Tanda pump canal, Kano pump canal, Mata Tila dam, Rama Ganga river project

Shri Sarju Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide power on cheap rates to agriculturists

Shri Sarju Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to integrate flood control and irrigation schemes

Shri Sarju Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for allotment of sufficient funds for Nagarjunasagar project

Shri D. V. Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for allotment of funds to scarcity areas for irrigation schemes

Shri D. V. Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Proper utilisation of waters after completion of projects

Shri D. V. Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to construct embankment for protecting Sundarbans area of West Bengal from floods every year

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to construct canals for irrigation during drought and flood in West Bengal

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to include Sundarbans in the two Five-Year Plans for its development

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to rehabilitate the up rooted persons from D.V.C. area

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Excluding Sundarbans areas from contour survey

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure of Mayurakshi scheme to supply water during cultivation

Shri Halder: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to protect agricultural land on the banks of rivers Mahi, Sabarmati, Saraswati, Rupen and Pushpawati in Gujerat

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to protect villages on the banks of rivers Sabarmati, Mahi, Saraswati, Pushpawati and Rupen

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to rehabilitate the displaced persons at Hirakud and in giving adequate compensation for their submerged lands

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of regulating the flow of the Tel River in Orissa by providing small dams along all its tributaries

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of completing the Chiplima Power House Project at an early date to meet the power scarcity in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for extending the 132 k.w. transmission line of the Machkund Hydel project from Rayagadda to Kesinga

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of making the Mahanadi navigable throughout the year by blasting the boulders at the river bed.

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of taking up the Bhimkund project in Orissa at an early date

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Urgent necessity of constructing Ganga Barrage at Farakka, West Bengal

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide foreign exchange for Sharvathy Valley project

Shri Mohammed Imam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to utilise the full irrigation facilities from the project constructed

Shri Mohammed Imam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to check corruption and wasteful expenditure in the construction of Bhakra Reservoir

Shri Mohammed Imam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs. 100."

Desirability of jointly taking up with China the hydro-development of the Brahmaputra at the sharp 'U' bend beyond the north-eastern frontier of India

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Multi-purpose river schemes be reduced by Rs 100"

Need to construct and maintain saline flood protection embankments to prevent saline inundation in the coastal belt of Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs 100"

Need for putting up a thermal station of 60 MWS at Kesinga at an early date

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs 100"

Desirability of generating power by utilising drops varying from 6 feet to 8 feet in the existing canals

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs 100"

Desirability of speeding up the rural electrification programme in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs 100"

Need to step up rural electrification programmes

Shri B. Dams Gupta: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head Other Capital Outlay of the

Ministry of Irrigation and Power be reduced by Rs. 100"

Mr Deputy-Speaker: These cut motions are now before the House.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): We are very glad to hear the speech of the hon Deputy Minister which showed how thorough he is with all the facts and figures of the various projects and the various problems confronting us. I congratulate the Ministry in making certain progress in regard to exchange of engineering personnel with other countries. Exchange of engineering personnel will go a long way in the development of our plans and projects. The planned machinery, I think, is not working very satisfactorily. For example, I wanted the construction of a drag line for the Najafgarh nalla which is a crying need of Delhi. They said it is not possible.

Shri Hathi: Not always. It is not under the Irrigation Ministry.

Shri C. K. Nair: That would have expedited our work. It was under the consideration of the Central Water and Power Commission.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch Tribes): It does not come under this Ministry.

Shri C. K. Nair: Central Water and Power Commission is under this Ministry, I suppose.

Shri Hathi: This comes under C P W D.

Shri C. K. Nair: The question of Najafgarh nalla has been repeatedly brought to the attention of the authorities but no Ministry or no Department is held responsible for the desilting of the nalla. It is one of the greatest needs of Delhi. It causes large and widespread water-logging in the rural areas in addition to the other inconveniences caused to the urban population. Therefore, I feel it is the duty of the Central Water and Power Commission to see that the work is expedited. There is great

difficulty in regarding the nalla because of the narrowness of the bridge at Bohak road. We were told that it could not be completely desilted. That was the objection put forward. We were told that it may take some more time for them to do it. I request the Central Water and Power Commission to expedite the work. There is no appreciation of the urgency of the matter by the Central Water and Power Commission in dealing with such matters. Last year, because of unprecedented floods, we had water-logging in Delhi and Gurgaon, and certain other areas. The Ministry appointed a Commission of highly placed engineers to go into the question and to report to us. We do not know what the report is. It is very important for us to know about that. Unless these problems are dealt with promptly, there is every likelihood of the same kind of difficulties being repeated this year also. Therefore, I expect the Central Water and Power Commission to look into these things promptly.

In this connection, I would like to congratulate the Government for having created a circle for the centrally-administered areas. Although it was created some two years ago with a Superintending Engineer, the other officers are not appointed till now. That delays the expeditious execution of their plan. Therefore, I would request the Ministry to look into that problem also.

Generally, the urban questions are dealt with quickly, but the rural problems are ignored. I have cited the example of Najafgarh nalla. Shadhara bund was constructed some years ago to save the G.T. Road railway line and Shadhara town from the devastation of floods. It had done very good work. The same expeditiousness, the same spirit of urgency is lacking with regard to our rural matters. I would like to know whether this subject does or does not fall within the purview of the Irrigation Ministry.

For example, when the Najafgarh nalla question was raised, we were informed that it did not fall within the purview of the Irrigation Ministry, and the reason advanced was that they would help the drains of the area which came under irrigation, but this Najafgarh nalla had nothing to do with irrigation, and it was purely a storm-water drain which had nothing to do with irrigation, and, therefore, they said that they had nothing to do with this drain.

As a result, for the last fifty years, it has been neglected, and it has not been desilted. Consequently, large areas are water-logged, and thousands of acres of land have gone under water, and there are no proper cultivation facilities for them. Therefore it is essential that this matter also should be looked into.

Shri Barman has painted a gloomy picture about how the silting question of the Hooghly is threatening Calcutta, I think the same is perhaps happening about Delhi also. This water-logging in Delhi is also going to be a menace because about two or three feet down below where I stand I am told there is water-logging. Perhaps, this question was also included in the terms of reference of the commission or committee appointed by the Prime Minister last year. We would like to know the details of the proposals made by that commission or committee.

So far as electrification is concerned, I think we are spending a lot of money for electrification. But, unfortunately, there too, the treatment which has been meted out to the rural people is a step-motherly one. That is not good for various reasons. In the first place, the first and foremost need of the cultivator is water. Where the canal system of supplying water is not possible, there the pumping system will help, but that needs electricity. Therefore, one of the most important points which this Mini-

[Shri C. K. Nair]

they should think and think about is electrification of the rural areas. It will be much better if whenever any project comes into being for the creation of electric potential, a portion of the electricity to be generated is set apart for irrigation purposes in the rural areas. We have been told for years that the Delhi villages are going to be electrified, but not a single village has been electrified up till now. Even where the line is standing, with the power to be supplied to the people, the work is not being done. In Narela, for example, a bulk supply of electricity is being demanded; we have been demanding the same for a long time. But still the work is not being expedited. That was what I was referring to when I said that there was not a feeling of a sense of urgency in executing matters by some of the departments under this Ministry. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to look into this question also

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Now, Seth Achal Singh.

As the Speaker has announced, every State and every Territory is to be called. So, there will be one complete round of all States and all territories before anyone from the same State is called.

Fandit D N. Tiwary (Kesaria): Bihar has not been called

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Bihar would be called, but in its turn. Now, it is Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: U.P. is the biggest State.

Shri F. K. Deo (Kalahandi): The hon. Minister comes from U.P.

श्री जयलाल सिंह (भागरा) उपा-
ध्यक्ष महोदय, चूंकि हमारा देश ऊँचि प्रकाल
देश है इसलिये उसके बास्ते पानी और

बास्तर का बिषय बहुत महान है। दूसरी
सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने इस बिषय में जो
काम पिछले वर्षों में किया है वह काफी है
और सराहनीय है। और पानी के प्राप्-
पाशी नहीं हो सकती और समाज नहीं पैदा
हो सकता। जो योजनायें बनी हैं उनसे
लाखों एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई हो रही है।
मैं आपको बताऊँ कि भाखरा नगल योजना
से १४ लाख ८२ हजार एकड़, डी० बी० सी०
से ७८ हजार एकड़, हीराकुंड योजना से
१,३६,००० एकड़, तुंगभद्रा योजना से
१,०६,८४० एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई सन्
१९५८ तक हुई। इसी प्रकार बम्बल,
कोइना, कोसी, सिरहनुव आदि योजनाओंसे
बहुत सी भूमि में सिंचाई होती है। इस
प्रकार इन सारी योजनाओं से करीब ५०
लाख एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई सन् १९५८
तक हुई है। फिर भी हम देखते हैं कि गल्ले
की कमी पूरी नहीं हो पा रही है। इसका
सास कारण यह है कि पिछले तीन चार वर्षों
से कुछ कुदरती मात्र हो रही है। कभी
ज्यादा वर्षा हो जाती है तो कभी सूखा
पड़ जाता है जिसकी वजह से तमाम खेती
नष्ट हो जाती है। पिछले दो वर्षों में ज्यादा
वर्षा हुई जिसकी वजह से पंजाब, उत्तर प्रदेश
और वीस्ट बंगाल में बाढ़ें आईं और लाखों
एकड़ जमीन डूब गई। इस वजह से अपना
कम पैदा हुआ।

दूसरा बिषय हमारे सामने आता है
वाटर लॉगिंग का। जिसके सुधार के बास्ते
प्लानड कंट्रोल बोर्ड बना है वह इस बात की
कोशिश कर रहा है कि इस पानी को निकाला
जाये। मैं आपको बताऊँ कि पिछले सात
साल लाखों एकड़ जमीन पानी के अन्दर
डूब गई और कांसिक की तमाम कास्त फसल
खराब हो गई और बहुत बरबादी हुई।
इस वजह से भी गल्ले की कमी पूरी हो
कठिन हो रहा है। आज से पिछले तीनों वर्षों
पहले इस बिषय के प्लान नहीं आते थे जैसे

कि इधर दो तीन साल से बेजाने में आ रहे हैं। इसका प्रायः कारण यह माना जाता है कि वे जो हाइड्रोजन और फ्लूओरो-गैस में छोड़े जा रहे हैं इनके बहुत बर्फी पैदा होती है और इस वजह से बहुत माप में मानसून जल्दी है और प्लव्न आते हैं। यही वजह प्लव्न आने की हो सकती है दूसरी कोई वजह मैरी समय में नहीं आती। प्रायःकल मानते हैं कि जिन क्षेत्रों में पहले २० या २२ इंच पानी पड़ता था वहाँ अब ६० और ७० इंच पानी पड़ने लगा है। आगरे का झरई एरिया है और यह राजस्थान की सीमा पर है। वहाँ पर १५ या २० इंच पानी बरसता था लेकिन पिछले कई वर्षों से वहाँ पर ६० या ७० इंच पानी बरस रहा है। इस वजह से वाटर लागिंग हो रहा है और प्लव्न आ रहे हैं।

15.56 hrs.

[SRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN in the Chair]

हो हमारी केन्द्रीय और प्रदेशीय सरकारों को इसका भी ध्यान रखना है कि किस तरह से इस वाटर लागिंग को खत्म करें।

आगरा जिला में दो नई नदियाँ निकल रही हैं, एक तो प्रलीगढ़ से फिरोजबाद तहसील में जिसका नाम सरसार कहा जाता है और दूसरी मथुरा से किराबली तहसील में जिसका नाम सीन कहा जाता है। इस बारे में हमने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को भी लिखा है कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में योजना बनाये जिससे कि पानी निकले और तबाही और बरबादी से सँकड़ों गाँव बच सकें।

इसके साथ ही हम देखते हैं कि जब पानी की जरूरत होती है तो पानी नहीं बरसता। इसलिये धावी की कमी पड़ती है। दूसरी जगहों पर ज्यादा पानी के कारण नुकसान होता है। तो हमको दोनों तरफ ध्यान देना होगा। जहाँ ज्यादा पानी

है उसे निकालना होगा और वहाँ पानी कम है उस वजह पानी पहुँचाना होगा।

दूसरा सवाल पावर का है। यह सवाल भी बहुत महत्व है। बिजली पावर के हम बोर्डों के लिये कोई काम नहीं कर सकते हैं आपको सलाह कि किस तरह से पावर का बटवारा हुआ है। डोमेस्टिक परपोजे के लिये १२ पर सेंट, कमर्शियल कामों के लिये ६ पर सेंट, इंडस्ट्रियल परपोजे के लिये ७४ पर सेंट, पब्लिक लाइटिंग के लिये २ पर सेंट और इरिगेशन के लिये सिर्फ ६ पर सेंट। यह बहुत कम है। इस ओर पूरा ध्यान देना चाहिये। ताकि हमारे ट्यूब वेल बल सकें। हमारे यहाँ आगरे में बाहू तहसील में ५० ट्यूब वेल बने पड़े हैं लेकिन उसके लिये बिजली न होने से उनसे काम नहीं लिया जा सकता है। उनसे कोई फायदा नहीं उठाया जा रहा है। मथुरा और आगरे को पिछले दस बारह बरसों में न एक यूनिट बिजली मिली है और न ही एक क्यूबिक पानी मिली है। हम लगातार उसके बारे में प्राथिपक्ष गवर्नमेंट तथा सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थनायें करते आ रहे हैं कि इन इलाकों की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाये लेकिन अब तक कुछ नहीं किया गया है। यह बताया गया था कि हिंदुस्तान स्कीम धायेंगी लेकिन वह भी खत्म कर दी गई है। उसके बाद कहा गया कि रामगंगा स्कीम हम धायेंगे और उससे पानी की कमी को पूरा कर देंगे। पता नहीं उसका क्या हुआ है, पता नहीं धाया वह प्रमल में धायेंगी या नहीं धायेंगी।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जिन इलाकों में पानी की कमी है या बिजली की कमी है, उन इलाकों की जरूरतों को ध्यान में रखा जाना चाहिये। हमारे दोनों जिलों में इन चीजों की बहुत सख्त जरूरत है। मैं मानता हूँ कि धान्य क्षेत्रों में पानी तथा बिजली पहुँचाने की ओर सरकार

[श्री धवल सिंह]

ध्यान दे रही है लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि इन झाड़ जिल्लों की धोर प्रयास ध्यान जाना चाहिये हम देखते हैं कि दुनिया की दूसरी सरकारों जैसे रूस-चीन प्रादि ने पिछले पाच सात वर्षों में इस धोर बहुत ज्यादा ध्यान दिया है और बड़ी तरफकी की है। रूस ने सात वर्षीय योजना बनाई और उसको पूरा किया और उन्नति के मार्ग पर अग्रसर हुआ। अमरीका में भी इस तरह से योजनापूर्वक काम चल रहा है और बड़ी तरफकी हो रही है। हम प्रथम पाच वर्षीय योजना को पूरा कर चुके हैं और दूसरी योजना इस समय चल रही है। उममें मैं मानता हू कि हम तरफकी कर रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं चाहूंगा कि इस तरफ और ध्यान दिया जाये ताकि हम पानी और बिजली की कमी को पूरा कर सकें और यदि पानी की कमी पूरी हो गई तो गल्ले की हमारी जो जह-रियात है, वे भी पूरी हो जायेगी। यदि हम इसमें सफल हुये तभी हमारा देश खुशहाल हो सकता है। हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है और वह तभी खुशहाल हो सकता है जब कि हम उसकी पानी और बिजली की जरूरतों को पूरा कर दे, जब इनका काफी इतिजाम कर दे ताकि ज्यादा से ज्यादा गल्ला पैदा हो सके।

*Shri K. V. Padalu (Golugonda—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I whole-heartedly support the demands of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power with regard to electric power and keenly request for the immediate implementation of the Upper Sileru Hydro-electric scheme included in the Second Plan.

The Upper Sileru Hydro-electric scheme is one of the major projects

in the State of Andhra Pradesh, and is situated in my constituency. Investigations for this project were taken up as early as 1942 and finalised in 1955. The various details and designs have been duly completed in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission and the scheme has also been technically sanctioned by the Commission. This project has been divided into two stages keeping in view the foreign exchange deficit of our country. In the first stage, power will be available to the tune of 1,20,000 kW within a period of three years. The estimated cost of the first stage of the project would be about Rs. 6 crores to Rs. 7 crores working out to about Rs 600 per kW only, when compared with the other hydro-electric projects in the country costing about Rs 2,000 per kW. Members will also realise that it will be a fruitful investment as the return will be of the order of 11.2 per cent against 3 to 6 per cent. with regard to similar projects.

The surplus and used-up machinery in Tungabhadra and Machkund Hydro-electric projects can be profitably diverted to start the work. This project is located in dense forest area. Hence, development of paper and timber industries is envisaged. Besides, a large number of tribal people inhabit this area, and this forms the main project for their economic development. I submit that the only way to develop the tribal people of this area is to initiate this project, which will provide employment opportunities for a large number.

It appears that some minor objections have been raised by the Government of Orissa in regard to this project. It may be recalled that the "full rights" for the development of the Sileru basin have been ceded to Andhra Pradesh in Clause XVI of the

*English translation of speech delivered by Shri K. V. Padalu in Telugu.

1942 Agreement between the Government of Orissa and the Government of Madras, which at that period was representing the interests of Andhra Pradesh. I submit that the development of this project is a matter of all-India significance and therefore minor objection of States should not be allowed to preclude or prevent the development of India as a nation.

The per capita consumption of electricity which is a recognised index of the economic development of the country is as low as 8 units in Andhra Pradesh compared with the all India figure of 20 units, and those of the neighbouring States of Madras and Mysore which are about 25 and 60 units respectively. Moreover, the State of Andhra Pradesh has got vast mineral resources awaiting exploitation with the availability of cheap electric power. Therefore, the execution of the first stage of the Upper Sileru Hydro-electric project is of immediate necessity.

In the light of all these, I earnestly request that the execution of the first stage of the Upper Sileru project be undertaken immediately and the Government of Andhra Pradesh be directed to initiate the project forthwith.

I thank you for this opportunity

Shri P. K. Deo: After all these congratulatory speeches, the feeling on this side of the House is that the Demands of the Ministry should not be allowed to be passed without making reference to the various lacunae in the Ministry, at the same time making some concrete suggestions.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): And strong criticism also.

Shri P. K. Deo: There can be no two opinions that the population has been growing at a more rapid rate than food production in the country, and that makes it imperative for the Government to go in for import of more foodgrains, depleting our hard-earned foreign exchange.

So far as land is concerned, there is plenty of land, and 840 million acres have been brought under cultivation; if proper moisture could be provided at the right time, we can easily bring under cultivation another 230 million acres.

The water potential of our various great rivers is not being tapped properly. Only six per cent. of the water is being utilised for irrigation purposes and 94 per cent. goes straight to the sea. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that out of 340 million acres brought under cultivation, only 70 million acres have been brought under irrigation, that is 23 per cent. of the total land under cultivation. That a country can be potentially rich and at the same time miserably poor can be truer of no other country than India.

In this connection, I would like to give some statistics regarding per capita irrigated and cultivated land. In the U.S.A. for every thousand of the population there are 2,125 acres of cultivated land, of which 163 acres are under irrigation, whereas in our country for every thousand of the population; we have got hardly 823 acres of land. This cannot be left unreconciled since the yield per acre in this country is much lower than the yield in the U.S.A. and at the same time the rate of growth of population is much higher here. In this race of population and cultivation, if India has to survive and to guarantee a living standard to its people, we shall have to concentrate on spending much more of our resources on irrigation and the generation of power.

Regarding the study of the various river basins, I would like to submit that the natural boundaries do not conform to the man-made boundaries. So, the projects to be comprehensive should be studied basin-wise, as the watershed of a river includes parts of several States. Every river basin must have a project of 1;

[Shri P. K. Das]

of each State having a separate river development programme. We find that the collection and analysis of various statistics and basic information which are required for the river development programmes have been so spread out between the various agencies of the Centre and the States that there is absolutely no co-ordination.

15.40 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry the Mahanadi River Valley Development. Even though the whole Mahanadi River Valley development has been envisaged by the Central Government, now stages III and IV of the development have been left to the State. At this stage, it is very difficult for the State with limited resources and technicians to undertake the work of stages III and IV of the development project.

Now, coming to flood protection, the main purpose of taming the Mahanadi was to afford protection against coastal floods. These coastal floods have been a great nuisance and that is why the various stages of the Mahanadi River Valley Development had been taken up. From our experience last year, we find that even though the flow of the Mahanadi has been regulated at Hirakud, it has not been sufficient to control the floods in the coastal area. Unless and until the flow of the Tel river is regulated—Tel river is the main tributary of the Mahanadi with a catchment area of 1900 square miles—it is impossible to effectively control the devastating floods in the coastal area.

So far as the Tel valley is concerned, it has been proposed by Government to have a big dam somewhere at Belgau so that the flood of the Tel could be controlled. But by that we shall be submerging one

of the most fertile tracts, of Kalahandi and Bolangir districts, which are the two surplus districts so far as foodgrain is concerned. At the same time, we shall be submerging the Kesinga township, the Kesinga railway station, a portion of the Raipur-Vizag railway line which has grown in importance recently by the agreement with the Japanese Government for the annual supply of two million tons of iron ore. In this connection, I would beg to submit that the same effect of controlling the Tel river could be achieved if there is a chain of small reservoirs constructed at the various tributaries of the Tel in the upstream, for which there are suitable sites.

Recently the Government of Orissa submitted a project report of the Bhimkund project along the Baitaral river. This has got a power potential of 1,60,000 kW and will be able to irrigate 2,67,000 acres of land of which 73,000 acres would be suitable for double crop. The return from this Bhimkund project would be 11 per cent. under power and 2.9 per cent. under irrigation, and 9.9 per cent. under combined power and irrigation. I hope the Ministry will give thoughtful consideration to this and include it in the next year's budget.

15.44 hrs.

[SHRI JAIPAL SINGH in the Chair]

Coming to power, the per capita consumption is the main criterion to judge the development of the country. Experience has shown that electric power is used as fast as it is generated and not a single kilowatt goes abegging. If the energy is not needed and power is not utilised, we shall have look into the reasons why it is so. In Hirakud, 1,23,000 kW of energy are being generated. Next door, the people of Sambalpur are asked to pay for electricity consumed at the rate of 8 annas and some pF, probably the

highest rate prevailing in this country for hydro-electric power. In Berhampur, the people are asked to pay at the rate of 6½ annas per unit consumed, whereas next door at Iechapuram in Andhra, their neighbours pay one third of this rate. I cannot understand why, even though the Machkund project is a joint enterprise of the Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments, even though the Andhra Pradesh Government has commissioned the transmission line to the southern-most point, that is, Nellore, upto now no step has been taken by the Orissa Government to extend the transmission line beyond Rayagadda. The transmission line has been drawn from the Machkund Power House up to Rayagadda forest and it has stopped there. The reason given is that foreign exchange and funds are not available. That is why even though there is a crying need for power in my State, the Government is surrendering its quota of 30 per cent. of electricity to the Andhra Government. The Ferro Chrome plant to be put up at Jajpur Road is being delayed for lack of electricity.

In this connection, I beg to submit that Kesinga is a growing industrial town in my district. A paper mill was coming up there. Some preliminary work had already been completed, acquisition proceedings of land and things like that. Now they are shifting the paper mill to Rayagadda because the Government has failed to give them electricity, because according to the programme, the 132 kv transmission line which was to be drawn from Rayagadda to Kesinga has not been drawn. The Government should, I submit, consider this and give the 132 kv transmission line from Rayagadda to Kesinga. Failing that, the Orissa Government's recently given scheme to have one thermal station there of 60 mw should be commissioned.

So far as electricity is concerned, at a special meeting of the Orissa MPs, the Orissa Government gave us to understand that it would not be possi-

ble for them to have an Electricity Board for various reasons. They said that once an Electricity Board was formed, it would be a commercial concern and most of the profits would go towards income tax—which at the moment went to the Orissa treasury. So it would not be possible for a State like Orissa with limited resources to go in for a Board. Secondly, they say that the rural electrification programme which is not a commercially economic proposition would get a setback if left in charge of the Board. Then they say that there will be dual control—because irrigation and power are interlinked subjects—irrigation would be under the control of the Government and power would be under the control of the Board, and then there would be conflict in the administration of the various multi-purpose projects.

In this connection, I would like to place the viewpoint of the consumers before the House. They have been pressing that their interests will be better served if a Board is formed. It is for the Government to give thought over the matter and decide which would be the most suitable to all concerned.

Before I conclude, I would like to suggest that we may jointly take up the construction of a hydro-development project in the Brahmaputra with the Chinese Government at the sharp 'U' bend of the Brahmaputra just beyond Assam. It would be the biggest multi-purpose project because it has got a head of 7500 ft and has got a potential to generate 30 million kW of electricity at 60 per cent. load factor. It would be to the mutual benefit of China and this country. It will solve the flood problem of Assam. It will save Dibrugarh and other areas which are constantly threatened by the Brahmaputra.

Lastly, I would like to draw attention to saline embankments along the coastal belt of Orissa. In this connection, I would like to point out that to save the lands from the tidal waves, formerly small zamindars along the

[Shri P. K. Deo]

Orissa coast used to maintain saline embankments. After the abolition of zamindari, those embankments are lying in disrepair. The Orissa Government gave us to understand that when they ask for funds from the Centre for flood protection measures, for embankments, they say it is not flood protection and the Central Government won't show any sympathy to Orissa. Government should seriously take this into consideration and grant funds to the Orissa Government so that the saline embankments would be properly repaired and maintained.

Then the land which is being inundated by saline water can be saved from becoming arid and made fit for cultivation.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member from Kesaria. Then I will call the hon. Member from Vijayawada and then the hon. Member from Kumbakonam.

वंशित डा० ना० सिचारी : सभापति महोदय

Shri J. Mandal (Khagaria) rose—

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member from Kesaria and not the hon. Member from Khagaria.

वंशित डा० ना० सिचारी : सभापति, महोदय, मैं आपका बहुत धाराती हूँ कि आपने पावर एंड इरीगेशन मंत्रालय की माँगों के सम्बन्ध में मुझे अपने विचार प्रकट करने का अवसर दिया। भारत सरकार के जितने भी विभाग हैं उनमें सिंचाई और विद्युत् विभाग बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विभाग हैं और इस विभाग पर देश की उन्नति निर्भर करती है। यदि खेती-बाड़ी के लिये पानी का समुचित प्रबन्ध न रहे तो कृषिसाधकसं कुछ काम नहीं कर सकते। बिना पानी के कृषिसाधकसं बेकार हैं। अगर एक बरतबा कृषिसाधकसं न भी रहे तो भकेले पानी से हम अधिक पैसा करके पैसा सकते हैं।

बड़े उद्योग हों या छोटे गृह उद्योग हों, यदि बिजली न रहे तो उनका फल बल नहीं सकता। इसलिये देश की सम्पत्ति बढ़ाने में या देश को स्वावलम्बी बनाने में इस विभाग का बहुत बड़ा हाथ है।

जो रिपोर्ट हम लोगों के सामने है और जो हमको दी गई है उसमें पूरा विवरण नहीं है। मैं चाहता था कि इसमें पूरा विवरण होता कि जो आपकी लघु सिंचाई योजनायें हैं उनसे कितनी जमीन की सिंचाई हुई और बड़ी योजनाओं से कितनी सिंचाई हुई। बड़ी योजनाओं के तो इसमें आकरे हैं लेकिन लघु सिंचाई योजनाओं से कितनी भूमि की सिंचाई हुई वह इसमें नहीं दी गई है। इस वास्ते हम लोग यह अन्याया नहीं लग सकते कि कितनी वाटर पोटेंशियल का इस्तेमाल किया गया। जब हम देखते हैं कि जो सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध हम लोगों ने किया है वह पूरा इस्तेमाल में नहीं आया है, पूरा काम में नहीं आता है तो जरा मायूसी होती है। अब वह क्यों नहीं आता इसके कई कारण बतलाये गये। एक कारण यह बतलाया गया कि नाला नहीं बन सका। यह खुशी की बात है कि भारत सरकार ने इस मोर ध्यान दिया और बहुत सी कमेटियां बनाई और बहुत मुबाहिसे के बाद कुछ प्रगति हुई लेकिन अब हम पावर पोटेंशियल के बारे में देखते हैं तो हमारी मायूसी बढ़ जाती है।

हमारे यहाँ पर ४० मिलियन किलोवाट हाइड्रो बिजली की पावर प्रस्तुत है लेकिन इस्तेमाल १.३ मिलियन किलोवाट ही होती है। क़रीब क़रीब ३६ मिलियन किलोवाट बिजली बाकी रहती है जिसको हम इस्तेमाल में ला कर अपने यहाँ की सम्पत्ति को बढ़ा सकते हैं। हम देखते हैं कि जो हमारा टार्गेट है उसमें भी ठीक से प्रगति नहीं हो रही है। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहूँगा कि पावर जनरेशन

के सम्बन्ध में तीन वर्षों में जो प्रगति हुई है वह .७७ मिलियन किलोवाट की है। ३.४२ मिलियन किलोवाट पावर आप प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्त तक कर चुके थे और अभी आपने .७७ मिलियन किलोवाट और किया है। इस तरह आपको २.८० मिलियन किलोवाट पावर इस्तेमाल करना बाकी है। जब आप इन तीन वर्षों में केवल .७७ मिलियन किलोवाट ही उत्पादन कर सके हैं तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि आप अगले २ वर्षों में २.८० मिलियन किलोवाट कैसे कर सकते हैं। यदि यह प्रगति ठीक से नहीं हुई तो यह काम हमारा पूरा नहीं होगा और हमारा टारगेट अधूरा रह जायगा।

ट्रान्समिशन लाइन के सम्बन्ध में हम देखते हैं कि प्रथम योजना के अन्त में ३७ हज़ार २०० मील लम्बा तार लगाया गया है और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में ३५ हज़ार मील लम्बा तार लगाया जाना है। आपने १० हज़ार ८५० मील तार तीन वर्षों में लगाया है। १२ मार्च सन् १९५६ तक आपको ३० हज़ार मील और लगाना है। यह भी हो सकेगा या नहीं ठीक से नहीं कहा जा सकता क्योंकि यदि प्रगति बहुत तेज नहीं हुई तो शायद वह नहीं हो सकेगा। इसलिये मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगा कि इसकी प्रगति बढ़ानी चाहिये। आपके पास डाइरेक्टोरेट्स की कमी नहीं है। इस किताब में आपके जितने डाइरेक्टोरेट्स दिये हैं मैं समझता हूँ कि उतने डाइरेक्टोरेट्स किसी अन्य मंत्रालय में नहीं हैं। इस मंत्रालय में कुल १८ डाइरेक्टोरेट्स हैं और जिन पर काफ़ी खर्च होता है। इन पर कितना खर्च होता है वह तो इस पुस्तक में नहीं दिया गया है लेकिन तो भी काफ़ी खर्च होता होगा। लेकिन जहाँ तक काम का ताल्लुक है तीन वर्ष में जितना काम होना चाहिये था उतना काम नहीं हो सका है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस और अधिक ध्यान दिया

जाय ताकि हमारा टारगेट फ़ुलफ़िल हो सके।

मैं अब अपने प्रान्त के सम्बन्ध में कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। यह बिहार का दुर्भाग्य है कि उसके साथ स्टेप यदर्सी ट्रीटमेंट किया जाता है। अभी तक जितनी नव योजनाएँ बनी दामोदर घाटि उनमें कोई सिंचाई की बात नहीं है। तिलैया डैम से करीब १७ हज़ार एकड़ जमीन पट सकती थी लेकिन ४, ५ वर्ष बीत गये अभी तक कोई इंतज़ाम नहीं हुआ। तिलैया डैम में अगर नाला निकाल दिया जाता तो १७ हज़ार एकड़ जमीन पट सकती थी लेकिन उसका इंतज़ाम नहीं किया गया। समझ में नहीं आता कि उसका इंतज़ाम क्यों नहीं किया गया। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहूंगा कि इस सम्बन्ध में इतनी देरी क्यों हुई और इसमें जो प्रगति नहीं की जा सकी उसका क्या कारण है? तिलैया डैम में १७ हज़ार एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई होने को भी ४ उसको ४, ५ वर्ष बीत गये लेकिन अभी तक उस सम्बन्ध में जांच ही चल रही है और नाशा नहीं निकाला गया। साखी एकड़ जमीन पटाने के लिये बंगाल के हिस्से में नाला निकाला गया लेकिन बिहार में क्यों नहीं निकाला, यह समझ में नहीं आता। डी० बी० सी० में बिहार का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा है, बहुत अधिक रुपया बिहार में लगाया है लेकिन मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उसका फल क्या बिहार को मिलता है? कुछ छोड़े लकड़े किमोवाट बिजली उसे मिलती है लेकिन सिंचाई के सम्बन्ध में डी० बी० सी० से कुछ भी फ़ायदा नहीं होता।

कोसी योजना जरूर बनाई गई लेकिन वह सिंचाई की योजना नहीं है वह तो बाढ़ को रोकने की योजना है। सिंचाई के सम्बन्ध में जहाँ तक बिहार का हिस्सा

[पंजित डा० ना० सिवारी]

ई उस सम्बन्ध में मिनिस्ट्री का एक बरा सङ्घर्ष होना चाहिये, कड़ा नहीं होना चाहिये ।

हम लोगों की गंडक योजना यू० पी० और नेपाल के झगड़े में बहुत दिनों से यूँही पड़ी हुई है । यह झुपकी की बात है कि अभी चन्द दिन पहले हमारे माननीय मंत्री ने यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट से उसकी बाबत तय किया लेकिन अभी नेपाल से झगडा चल रहा है और पता नहीं है कि कब तक यह कार्यान्वित हो सकेगी । इस गंडक स्कीम से बिहार से काफी अधिक भूमि की सिंचाई की व्यवस्था होने वाली है । बिहार के हिस्से में करीब-करीब २५ लाख एकड़ जमीन उससे पटेगी ।

मैं कुछ भाकड़े भापके सामने रखता हूँ । भाप देखेंगे कि भाखड़ा डैम से ३६ लाख बार हजार २७५ एकड़ जमीन पटेगी जब कि खर्चा होगा १७५ करोड़ या १७० करोड़ बी० बी० बी० में १० लाख ४४ हजार एकड़ जमीन पटनी है और खर्चा है ११० करोड़ । हीराकुंड से ३ लाख ८० हजार एकड़ जमीन पटनी है और खर्चा है ७, ७८ करोड़ रुपये । तुंगभद्रा योजना से ८,०२,५०० एकड़ जमीन पटनी है, और उसमें खर्च बहुत अधिक है । गंडक योजना में ३२ लाख एकड़ जमीन पटनी है और खर्च सिर्फ ४७ करोड़ है । भाप समझ सकते हैं कि कितनी सस्ती, कितनी उपयोगी और कितनी तुरंत फायदा देने वाली यह स्कीम है । लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश और नेपाल के झगड़े की वजह से यह पड़ी हुई है । बहुत खोजने के बाद बिहार में एक जगह निकली थी सिसवन, जहाँ मे आसानी से एक नहर निकाली जा सकती है पर उसे छोड़ दिया गया । उत्तर

प्रदेश को और नेपाल को फायदा हो मैं इसको भ्रम नहीं करता । लेकिन बिहार का हिस्सा नजरअंदाज किया जाये यह अच्छी बात नहीं है । मालूम नहीं कब तक यह फायदल होगा और इसमें काम कब लग सकेगा । मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जब तक नेपाल से लिखापट्टी नहीं हो जाती, जिसका कि आश्वासन है कि वह हो जायेगी, तब तक मेन चैनल खोदने के लिए काम लगाया जाये ताकि लिखापट्टी होती रहे और यह काम भी होता रहे । मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश का हिस्सा है उसमें काम चलता रहे । जो भ्रन्वेषण करना हो, नहर आदि किस तरह से निकाली जायेगी इसकी नाप आदि जो होनी है वह हो जाये जिस में कि नेपाल से लिखापट्टी खत्म होने के बाद अधिक समय काम के पूरा होने में न लगे ।

मायूसी तब होती है जब हम देखते हैं कि इस काम के लिए ५० लाख खपया दिया गया है । यह ४७ करोड़ की स्कीम है और ५० लाख खपया दिया गया है । इससे क्या हो सकता है । इससे तो सबकुछ और क्वार्टर भी नहीं बन सकते । मैं चाहूँगा कि मंत्री जी इस ओर ध्यान दें और इसमें काम शीघ्र से शीघ्र लगाने की कोशिश करें ।

बिजली के सम्बन्ध में एक बात और कहनी है और वह यह है कि बिजली के उत्पादन का खर्चा १.२५ नये पैसे से लेकर ३ नये पैसे तक होता है । और कंज्यू र से डोमेस्टिक यूज और एपीकल्चर के लिए जो रेट लिया जाता है वह कहीं चार आना है, कहीं ६ आना है और कहीं आठ आना है । तो उत्पादन खर्च से

२००० या २५०० युवा ज्यादा काम लिया जाता है। आप युवा से सीजिये, सिव्वा से सीजिये, पाकि युवा से सीजिये, वल युवा से सीजिये लेकिन आप इतना अधिक काम लेते हैं जिसके कारण गृहस्थ आसानी से सिबाई नहीं कर सकते और न इस बिजली को देहली और गांधी में रहने वाले लोग काम में ही ला सकते हैं। आपको इसका रेट बढ़ाना चाहिए ताकि लोग गांधी में भी बिजली का इस्तेमाल कर सकें। शहरों में भी लोग रहते हैं। उनसे कुछ ज्यादा भी ले लीजियेगा तो उनको बसरेगा नहीं, लेकिन जो देहात में रहने वाले हैं उनकी आमदनी नाममात्र की भी नहीं है। उनसे अधिक पैसा लेते हैं तो यह उन पर एक बहुत बड़ा भार पड़ता है।

मैं आपसे फिर एक बार यह इस्तदुआ करूंगा कि आप गंडक नहर की तरफ ध्यान अधिक दें और बिजली का दाम कुछ कम करने की सोचें और जो ट्रांसमिशन लाइन लगानी है उसमें और बिजली के उत्पादन में अधिक प्रगति लायी जाये।

Mr. Chairman: Before I call upon the hon. Member from Vijaywada, I would like to know how long the senior Minister would like to take in reply to this debate.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha) rose—

Mr. Chairman: I am addressing myself to the senior Minister, not to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Mohamad Ibrahim): About 40 to 45 minutes.

Mr. Chairman: We have six hours for the Ministry. In that case I must call the hon. Minister somewhere at quarter past 5. I would like to know the number of speakers.

Some Hon. Member rose—

425 LSD—7.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: The reply of the Minister may be the next day.

Mr. Chairman: I am conducting the business of the House. I know what I am doing. Now, the hon. Member from Vijaywada and then afterwards the hon. Member from Kumbakonam. Then there would be a maiden speech.

एक माननीय सदस्य हसीरपुर के हैं जिन्होंने अभी तक भाषण नहीं दिया है। उन्हें बुलाया जायेगा।

श्री जगदीश प्रबन्धी (बिल्सौर): श्रीमान् जी, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बिन्टी प्रान्सेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब ने काफ़ी बतल ले लिया है, इसलिए अब कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है कि मिनिस्टर साहब ज्यादा बतलें। अगर ऐसा हो तो अधिक सैम्बरों को समय मिल सकता है।

Mr. Chairman: It is for me to decide.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: What I was going to submit was that this debate started at 12-25 and six hours have been allotted. The whole thing must be finished at 4-25. I would, therefore, request the House to sit till 4-25 and finish the whole thing today.

Some Hon. Members: No, No.

Mr. Chairman: The Chair is fully aware of the time-table.

Dr. Achamamba (Vijaywada): I am glad that the Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power has said that irrigation and power are two very important things. Food and fuel are involved and so we must plan it not for individual States but for the country as a whole. I am also very glad that the neighbouring States are coming together so that planning is becoming rather easy. Still here and there a neighbouring State is objecting and some of the projects are

[Dr. Atchamma]

delayed because of this factor. The Sileru project is an example. Sileru is a small tributary of Sabari which is itself a tributary of Godavary. Sileru is on the border between Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. In the case of the Machkund project, the Orissa and the Andhra Governments agreed that seventy per cent of the power produced at Machkund would be utilised by Andhra and thirty per cent. by Orissa and it is being done like that. In that very agreement, it was also said that Andhra could develop further power projects on this small river, Sileru, for 99 years: the 99 years lease was given. But for the dam constructed at Machkund, it was not a perennial river, the water lasted only for four months. It has now become a perennial river due to the continuous flow from the Dam so that power could be extracted from that river.

Besides this, the river Soibur takes a turn and there is a drop of about 850 feet so that at different levels we could have different power projects very easily. We have just heard that Shrivati power project is the cheapest in India. The Sileru power project would be much cheaper than even Shrivati. If you take up a project at the level of 350 feet we have nothing else to do except to allow the water to drop vertically and machinery planted for producing power.

At this level of 350 feet we are contemplating to produce 1,00,000 KWs. Later on, if we have another project a little lower down at 600 feet we will have 2,50,000 KWs. This is a very good and cheap project. All the preliminaries are over and money has been sanctioned. Work was about to be started, when the Orissa Government for some reason or the other, in spite of the fact that 99 years lease has been given, objected on two counts.

The first objection is that certain lands will be submerged. But it is

not a fact. We are not building a dam. Only when we build a dam certain amount of water will have to be stored. Then it will occupy a larger space and the question of submerging lands will arise. Here there is no question of any dam. We have only making an outlet for water to drop. Therefore, except for the area occupied as the water goes down, no other area will be submerged. Therefore, that objection will not stand.

Secondly, they say that they will take the water from Sileru through a tunnel—of course, it has to be taken down from a height of 750 feet—and irrigate lands in Orissa. Let us consider this objection. This area in Orissa consists of a huge forest land. It has got very heavy rainfall. There are also a number of rivers running through the area. Without taking this trouble to bring the water through a tunnel and spending large amounts of money on that to get water from this small river, they can easily irrigate all the lands there with the water that is already available there. But because of this objection, this project has been delayed.

Sir, it is a very good and cheap power project. When we consider the southern peninsular region of India, Andhra has got the least power. All the other portions have got much more power than Andhra, e.g., Madras has 8 times more than Andhra. Therefore, this power project is a great necessity for Andhra. I hope the Government would go into this matter and see that it is sanctioned within a short time and work begun.

Then I come to Pocham Padu Project of Telangana. We all know that Telangana for hundreds of years has been suppressed by the worst feudal system possible in the whole of India, and as such it is very poor and very very backward. It has got a rich fertile land, an area equal to that of Punjab. It has got Kistna and Godavari, two big rivers, for water-supply.

We have developed Punjab. Today Punjab has got 12 million acres of land under cultivation. But in Telangana, even when the Nagarjunasagar project is completed we cannot have more than one million acres of land under cultivation. Of course, another one million acres will come under irrigation by wells, tanks and other means. Therefore, because we have got land, we have got people to cultivate it and we have also got water which can be properly utilised, I think this most important project of Pocham-Padu that is being contemplated by the Andhra Government should be pushed through. It is not a very big project. It is only a small project. Almost all the preliminaries are over. It is only fair that we should do something for Telangana which has been suppressed all these years and see that prosperity comes to at least now.

We have got the Nagarjunasagar project in Andhra. It is one of the biggest projects. In fact in capacity, size and quantity of water it is practically the biggest in India. We have got 15,000 labour working on it. With practically very little machinery and very little requirement of foreign exchange, that project is progressing very efficiently. We have got a set of wonderful engineers there, who are putting their whole life into the work. Yet, Sir, mere labour alone won't do. Everything requires money. In spite of this being a huge project, it is considered as a State project. What happens is, a major portion of the amount allotted to this State for development is spent every year on this Nagarjunasagar project with the result that very little is left for any other project in that part of the country. We have done huge projects like Bhakra, DVC, Hirakud and so on. In respect of these projects the Central Government has helped from the very beginning with special loans and only towards the end the State Governments have taken it upon themselves completely. Till about the middle of these projects the Central Government has given help. In fact,

the capacity to work, and the quantity and quality of the staff that is there at Nagarjunasagar is so great that if only enough money is given they will be able to turn out twice or thrice the work that they are showing now. The greater the delay in giving the money, the greater will be the cost and the greater will be the delay in increasing food production which is very necessary now in this country. Therefore, I request that the Central Government should also help us a little by loans with regard to this Nagarjunasagar, so that this project may come into being as quickly as possible and help the food crisis in this country.

I do not want to say number of things, so that the Ministry may not forget the most important things that are necessary in respect of these projects. I only hope that the Irrigation and Power Ministry will seriously consider my suggestions and do their best in respect of these projects.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member from Kumbakonam. After that there will be the maiden speech by the hon. Member from Hamirpur, and then I will call the hon. lady Member from Jammu and Kashmir.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): Sir, may I seek your clarification on a point? You have been pleased to call "the hon. Member from Kumbakonam". In South Indian legislatures the word "Kumbakonam" has been held to be unparliamentary. As it comes from you, Sir, may we take it that it is parliamentary here?

Mr. Chairman: It is most parliamentary. The hon. Member from Kumbakonam.

Shri Padam Dev (Chamba): Mr. Chairman, Sir

Mr. Chairman: No, Sir. The hon. Member from Kumbakonam.

Shri Padma Dey: In the morning it was announced by the Speaker that all States will be given time. Himachal Pradesh has not been given time.

Mr. Chairman: I am in the Chair now. The hon. Member from Kumbakonam.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: Sir, will you be calling any Member from Orissa?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member from Kumbakonam.

Shri C. E. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for the readiness with which you came to my rescue in saving the reputation of the high intellectual constituency to which I have the honour to represent. Sir, the generosity of the place is such that even though I belong to Arcot they have adopted me and returned me with a fairly good majority.

Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, may I also pay my tribute to the very good and impressive record of their work? In retrospect, in their various reports they have referred to what has been done in the 1958-59 season, and they have also given a prospective analysis what they propose to do in 1959-60. The determination of project size and the preparation of preliminary basin-wise irrigation potential have also been prepared for ten river basins. The waterways report on the river Chambal and the navigation reports on the Mahanadi and Gomati rivers have also been finalised. Besides, draft reports were also submitted in connection with the creation of Narmada-Sone-Ganga coast-to-coast waterway, and the Narmada-Wain-ganga Godavari coast-to-coast waterway. That is a good record.

It must also be remembered that so far as the Hirakud project is concerned, irrigation facilities were made available to 2.4 lakh acres by the end of December, 1958. In the main power house, the fourth unit with a

power of 37,500 kw has been added. As regards the Damodar Valley project the second and the third units of the hydel power station at Maithon were commissioned in May and December 1958 respectively. As much as 96.8 per cent of the entire canal system and about 97 per cent of the drainage channels were completed before the end of December, 1958. So far as the Tungabhadra project is concerned, the main dam has been completed, and so far as the Bhakra-Nangal project is concerned, the first stage of raising the dam to a height of nearly 400 feet above the deepest foundation has been completed. The second stage of concreting began on the 23rd October, 1959. This is all happy reading.

I am just giving these facts in review and I wish, with your leave, to comment with regard to planning and execution of some of the works. I have got some comments to make, and before I go further, I wish to refer to the Flood Wing of the Central Water and Power Commission which has continued to render technical assistance to the various States. There are at present Flood Control Boards in 12 States and four River Commissions for the Brahmaputra, the Ganga, the North-west rivers and the Central India rivers respectively. The high level committee on floods which was set up in April, 1957 to assess the flood problem has taken up its task in earnest and I am glad to say, on account of the various control works executed since 1954, that many of the floods have been checked and protection has been afforded to 42 towns and nearly 50 lakh acres have been saved for irrigation purposes.

Having said that, I wish to state that the future development of agriculture and industry in this country rests chiefly on how the various major, medium and minor river valley projects and other projects are executed. It is now common knowledge that there have been lapses not only in planning of these projects but

also in the execution of them. Take for example the Damodar Valley scheme. Today it costs Rs. 126.42 crores, and this is higher by Rs. 78 crores over the original estimate. So also with the Rihand dam. Today's estimate is Rs. 46.05 crores for this project as against Rs. 35.2 crores. The Kakrapar Weir and canals cost Rs. 11.8 crores now as against Rs. 6.5 crores. I do concede that some allowances will have to be made for the inflationary tendency shown in the rise of prices but having made that allowance, it is to be hoped that this mistake will not be repeated in future and that the experience gained so far, so far as the planning and execution are concerned, will be utilised in framing future schemes.

So far as the flood control measures are concerned, I wish, with your leave, to refer to the urgent need of saving the waters of the Brahmaputra, the Ganga and the Godavari and the Krishna. Millions of cusecs of water are going to waste and it is, therefore, essential that dynamic thinking in national terms will have to be undertaken and will have to be the rule, so far as the various flood control measures are concerned.

Dandakaranya is referred to in speeches in this House. That word is taken from the *Ramayana*. The area of Dandakaranya now covers a portion of Bellary district and the ceded districts where one does not have even a single tree, so much so that these areas have now practically become a desert. All this area could be reclaimed and saved if only the Godavari waters are channelled. I dare say that the waters may have to be taken over the Krishna river making use of the various levels, and brought to the ceded districts and also Chittoor, and even to Madras where there is the Krishna-Pennar project in contemplation. I have no doubt that if that project is undertaken and the waters made use of, the so-called ceded districts, the dry districts or the non-Nawja districts as they are called in that part of the country will

be utilised and become not only useful garden lands but also good rice-growing lands. That area is now hugely deficient so far as rice production is concerned. I am glad some such thinking has been there so far as the Rajasthan Canal is concerned. We are very proud of it; it is really comparable to the Volga Canal in Russia. We must have big schemes. I am not original, but I am only repeating what great statesmen said before, viz., the linking of Ganga with Cauvery and taking it down to Tambaraparani will not only provide the country with a good waterway but also provide great irrigational facilities.

The Planning Commission, for reasons best known to themselves reduced from Rs. 913 crores to Rs. 832 crores the total allocation so far as irrigation and power are concerned. This reduction is likely to affect the targets for irrigation. It is anticipated that as a result of this reduction, the large and medium projects would provide additional irrigation of the order of only 10.4 million acres as against 12 million acres envisaged in the Plan. But even this modified target is subject to adequate supplies of steel being made available, since a number of irrigation projects are at present unable to obtain the quantities of steel which they require.

The impact of the shortage of foreign exchange on targets for power is yet to be assessed. In the second Plan, the target for additional capacity was proposed at 3.5 million kilowatts, of which 2.9 million kilowatts were to be installed in the public sector, 300,000 kilowatts in the private sector and 300,000 kilowatts in industrial plants providing for their own generating capacity. It is, however, recognised that even with the fulfilment of these targets, it would be only just possible to meet the anticipated demands from industrial and other users. It has been pointed out frequently, that as we are building up the projects, the demand for electricity not only for

[Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman]

domestic consumption, but for small-scale industries, etc., is increasing and we will have to meet it. Otherwise, we will be falling short of the needs. As Shri Mathur pointed out, there will be lop-sided development. In some parts of India, the per capita consumption of electricity is very high and it is miserably low in some parts. We cannot have a strong limb and a weak limb; shortage of power will certainly affect some regions much more severely than other areas.

There has been a good deal of unutilised and under-utilised irrigation potential due to poor planning of the distributary system, power facilities and the like, I know I am treading on corns and am likely to be controversial. At the end of the first Plan, the under-utilised irrigation potential from major and minor irrigation projects exceeded three million acres. A significant factor responsible for the under-utilisation is stated to be the level of water, power and fertiliser rates. There has been stiff opposition in certain States, such as Punjab, to the payment of betterment levy. The point at issue is that it will not be possible to waive entirely the water and betterment levies. But the question is whether water rates under the new major and medium projects should be based on the cost of such projects or on the principle of net benefits.

It is true that if water rates are to be based on the basis of 'net utility' and if the interest on loans raised for the major projects is not wholly covered by the reduced rates, there will be a recurring loss to the exchequer and it will have to be recovered from the areas benefitting from such projects. There is no doubt that by and large, the water, power and fertiliser rates should be so manipulated as to provide for the full utilisation of the resources concerned.

I come to the grid system so far as power is concerned. I am glad frequent reference has been made to

linking up three or four States so far as electricity grid is concerned. It is essential in a country like ours. As pointed out by the hon. Lady Member from Bezwada, it is really inequitable that power rates should be very high in one area and very low in another area. The incidence should be spread over the whole of India and for that we must have a really good grid system. There should be three or four zones irrespective of the various State limitations. Shri Mathur says that it will take a number of years. I wish to assure him—I am not speaking for the Ministry—that such a grid system is envisaged for the various systems in the various reports that have been presented to Parliament.

The present food shortage can be met not merely by the big irrigation projects which will cost foreign exchange, but also by having more tanks and wells, what is more important is improving the existing ones. Now what happens is that Government undertakes the construction of wells. Then they are not looked after properly with the result that in 2-3 years they cave in. So, what is more important in the various villages is to see that the wells are properly maintained.

The execution of various irrigation and power projects is a matter of utmost importance to the nation. The faith of the people is pinned on these projects, because they are the chief means on which ultimately the agricultural and industrial self-sufficiency will depend. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that unnecessary expectations which may not materialise are not raised in the common man and that expectations raised are realised to the fullest possible extent so that there need not be any disillusionment which will hamper further planning.

One more point and I am done. The hon. Deputy Minister referred to the

inter-State disputes being settled amicably. That is but proper. It does not matter to which party any State Government belongs but the really important thing is that we must have all India thinking with regard to that. Especially, Madura and Rammad can benefit a lot by the Parambikulam and Kallar waters which are going to waste in the Arabian sea. Further, Kerala has got plenty of rainfall, which can be utilized by them. Already, thanks to Kerala State the Periyar water is flowing into Madura and helping its agriculture. Similarly, Parambikulam and Kallar river disputes have also to be settled expeditiously so that the benefits of those rivers may also come to us soon.

Before I conclude I wish to repeat that the Krishna-Pennar project and the Godavari water utilisation scheme will also have to be taken up soon.

Mr. Chairman: I am now calling the hon. Member from Hamirpur. Then I will call the lady Member from Jammu and Kashmir and then the hon. Member from Chitaldrug.

श्री लच्छी राम (हमीरपुर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : भादरणीय समापति महोदय, मैं पिछड़े क्षेत्रों से चुन कर आया हूँ इसलिये मैं माननीय सिचार्ड व विद्युत् मंत्री का ध्यान पिछड़े क्षेत्रों की ओर ही आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूँ ।

महोदय, आपको यह मालूम है कि हमारा देश गांवों में आबाद है। बहुत बड़ी जन संख्या इस देश की हमारे गांवों में रहती है और उनका मुख्य पेशा खेतीबाड़ी है। खेतीबाड़ी के सुधार के लिये गांवों की हालत सुधारने के लिये हमारी सरकार ने काफी काम किया, बड़े बड़े बांध बनाये, नहरें बनायीं और उनके द्वारा उनको राहत मिली। इसके लिये वह नंबालय बर्बाद का पात्र है। हमारी प्रांतीय सरकारों ने भी कुछ विधानों द्वारा विकास क्षेत्र खोल कर उनकी हालत सुधारने का काफी सहूलता की है और उनकी

हालत कुछ सुधरी भी है लेकिन समापति महोदय, जिन किसानों की हालत सुधरी उनकी संख्या अंगुलियों पर गिनी जा सकती है। वह बड़े बड़े कास्तकार जिनके कि पास आभकर खेत हैं उनकी ही हालत सुधरी। आज भी देश में बहुत बड़ी संख्या उन गरीब किसानों की है जिनके कि पास आभकर खेती है, जो भूमिहीन किसान हैं, और खेतिहर मजदूर हैं और दूसरे प्रकार के मजदूर हैं उनकी बहुत बड़ी संख्या है। उनकी हालत अभी जैसी की तैसी है। उनके पास तन ढकने को कपड़ा नहीं है और वह शिपड़ों में ही अपना बदन छिपाये रहते हैं। न उनके पास मकानों की व्यवस्था है और शोपड़ियों में ही अपना जीवन व्यतीत कर रहे हैं और न उनके पास भोजन की कोई समुचित व्यवस्था है। खूबे खूबे टुकड़े खा कर वे किसी तरह अपना जीवन व्यतीत कर रहे हैं। उनकी हालत सुधारने के लिये सरकार की तरफ से अभी कोई खास कदम नहीं उठाया गया। उनकी हालत सुधारी जा सकती है यदि बिजली के द्वारा, विद्युत् योजनाओं के द्वारा, कुछ घरेलू काम गांवों को दिये जायें। इस तरह गांवों की हालत सुधारी जा सकती है। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि बिभाग ने काफी काम किया है। बिजली पैदा करने के सम्बन्ध में बड़ी बड़ी योजनायें उन्होंने लीं और उनमें काफी कामयाब हुए लेकिन उसका पूरा पूरा लाभ शहर वालों को मिला। जितनी भी बिजली बनी उसका बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा शहरों ने खा लिया। गांवों को उसका थोड़ा भी हिस्सा नहीं मिल पाया। आप जानते हैं कि जब बड़ी बड़ी योजनायें बनती हैं, बड़े बड़े बांध बनते हैं तो उस समय गांवों के लोगों को ही कठिन परिश्रम करना पड़ता है। जो स्थान उनके लिये सुरक्षित किये जाते हैं उनमें कितने ही गांव शहर से उभर दे दिये जाते हैं और उन गांवों के आदिमियों को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह बसाने में कितनी कठिनाई होती है। बांध बनाने में जो मेहनत करनी पड़ती है वह भी गांवों के आदिमियों को ही

[श्री लक्ष्मी राम]

करनी मड़ती है। इतना कठिन परिश्रम करने के बाद भी यदि बिजली का उपयोग गांवों के छावणियों को न मिले तो गांवों में क्षीम पैदा होना स्वाभाविक है। ऐसी स्थिति में गांवों के लोगों को उसका उपयोग मिलना चाहिये।

अब मैं आपका ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर रूँ जाना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश हमारे देश में एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रदेश है। इतने बड़े प्रदेश में कितने ही क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं कि जो वास्तव में बड़े पिछड़े हैं। पहाड़ी क्षेत्र जहाँ कि अधिकतर भादिवासी और गरीब लोग रहते हैं, उनकी हालत बड़ी खराब है। पूर्वी जिलों के इलाकों में अशामकर खेतों वाले किसानकार हैं, उनकी भी हालत खराब है। तीसरा हिस्सा उत्तर प्रदेश में बुंदेलखंड का भाग है। बुंदेलखंड उत्तर प्रदेश का अत्यन्त पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है। इस इलाके में प्रान्तीय सरकार ने माता टीला नामक एक बांध बनाया और उस माता टीला बांध के द्वारा कुछ थोड़ी सी राहत किसानों को मिली लेकिन उस बांध बनाने के साथ बिजली बनाने की जो उसमें स्कीम थी, उसे थोड़ी सी विदेशी मुद्रा की कमी के कारण रद्द कर दिया गया। मैं आप से यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उस इलाके के गरीब भारत-वासियों ने, गरीब मजदूर और किसानों ने उस बांध के बनाने में अपना योग दिया लेकिन बिजली न बनने से उस क्षेत्र को कोई लाभ नहीं हुआ क्योंकि वह एक पहाड़ी इलाका है, ऊबड़ खाबड़ इलाका है। इसलिये उस क्षेत्र को नहर से कोई लाभ नहीं हुआ। बिजली से उसे लाभ हो सकता था लेकिन थोड़ी सी विदेशी मुद्रा के कारण वह क्षेत्र जैसे का तैसा रह गया।

अभी हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री महोदय ने कुछ लोगों को अपने यहाँ बुलाया और उन्होंने अपनी कठिनाई बाहिर की थी कि विदेशी मुद्रा केन्द्र से न मिलने के कारण

द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो बस योजनाओं हमने ली हैं, उनमें से केवल ६ ही हमें पञ्जाबी पड़ रही हैं और ४ को हमें स्थगित कर देना पड़ा है। तो मैं आपसे यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण बांध, जिन बांधों के कि एक अत्यन्त पिछड़े हुए इलाके को लाभ हो सकता है, उस इलाके की परवरिश के लिये अगर थोड़ी सी विदेशी मुद्रा दे कर वह काम पुनः चालू कर दिया जाये और इस देश के गरीब किसानों को लाभान्वित किया जा सके तो यह एक बहुत बड़ा काम होगा।

समापति महोदय, मैं एक बात और कह के अपनी बात समाप्त करूँगा। माता टीला बांध में लोहे के फाटक लगने हैं और वह फाटक शायद बाहर से आने हैं। उनका ठंका दे दिया गया है, लेकिन केन्द्र से उस फाटक खरीदने का लाइसेंस न मिलने की वजह से वह काम रुका पड़ा है। यदि थोड़ा ही वह इजाजत नहीं दी गयी तो मैं यह समझता हूँ कि उस बांध का जो बहुत बड़ा लाभ होने वाला है वह रह जायेगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय की याँगों का समर्थन करता हूँ और मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के लिए वह अधिक से अधिक सहायता करने की कृपा करें।

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member from Jammu and Kashmir. Then I will call the hon. Member from East Khandesh.

श्रीमती कृष्णा मेहता (जम्मू और काश्मीर) : समापति जी, खिचार्ई तथा विद्युत मंत्रालय के प्रगति कार्य जो हुये हैं उनके लिये मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बधाई देती हूँ और उनकी याँगों का समर्थन करती हूँ।

गत वर्ष मुझे संसद् सदस्यों के साथ बाहर जाने का मौका मिला था और

मैंने धामोवर घाटी, शिलश्या, खोभर, माइवान विजली घर, पंचट आदि योजनाएँ देखीं। उनको देखकर ऐसा मान हुआ कि इस वर्षों में हम बहुत धाने बढ़े हैं।

विद्युत मंत्रालय ने कुछ सर्वेक्षण करायें थे। उनके अन्तर्गत जम्मू और काश्मीर में भी दो परियोजनाएँ रखी गयी थीं। एक जम्मू प्रान्त में सलोन और दूसरी काश्मीर में लिदर बेली। उसके लिए मैं मंत्री जी का बन्धुवाद करती हूँ। पर एक चीज देखकर मुझे भारी निराशा हुई। वह यह कि इन दोनों परियोजनाओं का जो कार्य होगा वह तीसरी और चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में रखा गया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान उस तरफ दिलाना चाहती हूँ। वह जानते हैं कि काश्मीर की जनता की जीविका उद्योगों पर निर्भर करती है। अगर आप तीसरी और चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में इन परियोजनाओं को रखेंगे तो उन लोगों को कितनी निराशा होगी और उद्योग धन्वों में काश्मीर के लोग कितने पिछड़ जायेंगे। काश्मीर की गरीब जनता को आप पर भरोसा है और वह देखती है कि जल्दी से जल्दी उसकी तरफकी और लुप्तहाली हो।

आपने बाढ़ नियंत्रण आयोजन बनाया है उसमें जम्मू काश्मीर राज्य भी है। इससे वहाँ की जनता की बहुत भलाई होगी क्योंकि बाढ़ के कारण वहाँ की जनता को काफी संकट उठाना पड़ता है। आपने सब राज्यों से कुछ योजनाएँ मांगी थीं। उनमें से आपने कई योजनाओं पर बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिए काफी धनया खर्च करने की व्यवस्था की है। मैं फिर आपको जम्मू काश्मीर की याद दिलाती हूँ। मुझे आशा है कि वहाँ पर बाढ़ को रोकने के लिए आपने काफी रकम रखी होगी। बाढ़ नियंत्रण का कार्य सन् १९५४ से हो रहा है। इसके द्वारा २० लाख एकड़ खेती तथा बहुत से

गांवों की रक्षा हुई है। परन्तु फिर भी सन् १९५८ में बाढ़ से लगभग ४० करोड़ रुपये की हानि सारे भारत में हुई। मैं तो कहती हूँ कि सरकार को ज्यादा से ज्यादा ध्यान इस तरफ देना चाहिए और बहुत सा धनया बाढ़ रोकने पर खर्च करना चाहिए।

समापति जी, सन् १९५८-५९ का प्रति-वेदन पढ़ने से मालूम होता है कि सिंचाई को और अधिक से अधिक ध्यान दिया जायेगा। मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान उस इलाके की तरफ दिलाना चाहती हूँ जो कि बहुत दूर-दराज है। यह इलाका जम्मू से तकरीबन १५० मील है और उसनी ही दूर काश्मीर में है। उस इलाके में बारहों महीने अकाल रहता है। उन लोगों को कभी पेट भर घनाज नहीं मिलता। मैं मानती हूँ कि हमारी राज्य सरकार ने काफी घनाज वहाँ भेजा है। लेकिन कब तक घनाज बाहर से भेज कर उनका पेट भरा जा सकता है? वहाँ पर यातायात का कोई अच्छा प्रबन्ध नहीं है। १५ मील तक तो बस जाती है। लेकिन बस का इस्ता भी कई भरतबा टूट जाता है। और बीस-बीस दिन तक वह ठीक नहीं हो पाता। उस वक्त लोगों को बड़ी कठिनाई होती है। लगभग ६ वर्ष हुए कि वहाँ पर एक किस्तबार नहर खाने का काम शुरू हुआ था और राज्य सरकार ने उस पर २८ लाख रुपये भी खर्च किया था। पर न मालूम क्यों उस नहर का काम बन्द कर दिया गया। उन लोगों को इससे बड़ी निराशा हुई है। वह बहुत पहाड़ी और जंगलों की जगह है। उन लोगों ने मुझे मजदूर किया कि वहाँ आकर उनकी हालत देखूँ। मैं उनके वहाँ गयी। मैं समझती हूँ कि यह उनका हक है कि वहाँ नहर खोनी चाहिए। मैं नहीं जानती कि सरकार ने किन कारणों से, रुपये की कठिनाई से या किसी और वजह से, उस नहर का काम बन्द कर दिया। यह भी कहा जाता है कि उस काम को इसलिए बन्द किया गया है कि उसका सर्वे ठीक नहीं

[श्रीमती कृष्णा नेहता]

हुआ। मेरी माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि वह यहाँ के विशेषज्ञ वहाँ जें। अगर वहाँ पर वह नहर नहीं निकाली जा सकती तो सिंचाई की कोई दूसरी योजना वहाँ चलाई जाये ताकि उन लोगों को जो मनाब का मसला है वह हल हो जाये। वह बिजली नहीं मांगते और कोई दूसरी चीज नहीं मांगते। वह तो सिर्फ पानी मांगते हैं जो उनका हक है। मैं क्या कहूँ। उन ऊँचे-ऊँचे पहाड़ों में उनका पुकार गूजता है और वहाँ खत्म हो जाता है। मेरा यह कर्तव्य था कि मैं उनकी मांग आपके सामने रखूँ और आप उस पर कुछ करें। मुझे पूरी आशा है कि इसके लिए आप ज्यादा से ज्यादा रुपया देने की कोशिश करेंगे और किस्तवार नहर की योजना को धर्मन हाथ में लेंगे। इसके लिए मैं उनसे बार-बार प्रार्थना करती हूँ। अगर माननीय मंत्री जी को किस्तवार जाने का मौका मिलता तो वह खुद ही इस चीज को करने पर मजबूर हो जाते। वह बड़ी सुन्दर जगह है। वहाँ ७० हजार की आबादी है और जमीन ऐसी अच्छी है कि वहाँ दुग्नी और सिंचनी पैदावार हो सकती है। लेकिन पानी के बिना वहाँ कुछ नहीं हो सकता।

बस मुझे यही बोधी सी बातें कहनी थी जो मैंने आपके सामने रख दी। मैं आशा करती हूँ कि आप उन पर ध्यान देंगे।

Mr. Chairman: Now, the hon. Member from Chitaldrug. After him, I shall call the hon. Member for East Khandesh and then the hon. Member from Bankura.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: There is no quorum in the House.

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung. The hon. Member from Chitaldrug may start.

Shri Y. P. Nayar: We have necessarily to wait for the quorum.

Mr. Chairman: Then, the hon. Member from Chitaldrug may be present for a minute or two—

Now, there is quorum, the hon. Member from Chitaldrug may start.

Shri Mohammed Imam (Chitaldrug) Irrigation and power are two vital factors on the development of which depend the prosperity of the country and the well-being and happiness of the people. This has been realised by the Planning Commission and by Government, and I know that substantial amounts have been earmarked for the development of irrigation and power. I am also conscious that mighty dams have been constructed or are in the course of construction, and many multipurpose hydro-electric works have been constructed.

The primary object of taking up these reservoirs was firstly to grow more food and help food production, and secondly to see that as much power as possible is generated for industrial development and for domestic consumption. But it is to be regretted that in spite of so many big dams having been completed, the food position has not improved to any appreciable extent, or rather, it has become worse. The chief difficulty is this, that though we have constructed a number of projects, still we are not in a position to make use of the water potential that is stored there. Many projects and reservoirs, though completed, have not yet been put into full service. It is a serious problem, and I think the Government have appointed a high-powered committee to go into this question and to find out the causes that have led to this shortfall and why the full irrigation potential is not being made use of.

I may give one example. I come from Mysore. The Tungabhadra project was completed nearly three years

ago. The reservoir is full of water, but it has remained there as a dead storage. It was intended to irrigate one million acres of land with the help of this reservoir, but unfortunately the area irrigated so far is only about a lakh of acres. On the Bellary-Mysore side, it is only about 58,000 acres, and on the Raichur side it is much worse. So, Government have not been able to irrigate the full acreage as intended.

Similarly, in regard to other reservoirs. Take Damodar Valley. I think it was intended to irrigate one million acres as against which only about half of it has come under irrigation. The same thing happens to be the case with every reservoir that has been completed.

The responsibility of the Government does not end with the construction of the reservoir and storing it with water. In fact, it actually commences then, and they have to see that the water is properly made use of, and that they give all facilities.

Let us analyse for a moment why this water is not readily made use of. That is because the work is done in pieces. In places where the channel is ready, the reservoir is not ready, as in the case of Ghataprabha; or, when the reservoir is ready, the channel is not ready, as in the case of Tungabhadra. The Tungabhadra water can be used only when the high-level canal is ready, but Government have not bestowed any attention on it. Similarly, the water at Ghataprabha cannot be utilised unless they construct a dam.

There are other factors also. The policy of the Government in providing the channels is not quite satisfactory. I think the Government provides channels only to such an extent as to discharge three cusecs; all channels below three cusecs have to be undertaken by the ryot himself. You can imagine whether the ryot is in a position to construct field channels. He has to invest a lot of money. So, the Government should change its policy

and see that the channels are taken up right up to the land of the ryot; otherwise, if you load this burden of providing the channel by himself, it will be an impossible task for the ryot.

Secondly, there are some preparatory works like levelling his land. When the land has to be levelled and made ready for receiving the water, he has to spend a lot. Government does not give aid for this.

Similarly, every big reservoir has its own problem. If water is stored in large quantity, it has the effect of creating water-logged land all round. There is the question of drainage, there is the question of sanitation, there is the question of inter-communication routes, there is the question of preventing water-logging and other things. All these things have to be attended to by Government. It is only then that the water from the reservoir can be put to proper use.

Again I may point out to the Government and the hon. Minister some of the drawbacks and some of the problems that attend the construction of these reservoirs.

Firstly, there is the question of the estimates. I find from my study of all these reservoirs that no estimate is final. Originally the amount of the estimate will be a modest one, but in course of time that is revised a number of times. I may give you the example of the Chambal Hydroelectric project. It started on an estimate of Rs. 30—35 crores. Now it has gone up to nearly Rs. 65 crores. Similarly, the estimate of every project has gone up by more than 30—40 per cent. This is wrong and defective estimating. Our engineers must be more careful. It looks as if they are preparing the estimates on imagination and not on actual facts.

Again, take the delay in the completion of these reservoirs. This will always enhance the cost of any project. There are works going on for the last 10 or 15 years. I may mention the

[Shri Mohammed Imam]

Bhadra reservoir in the Mysore State. The work commenced in 1947 and it is still going on. They have not yet been able to store the water. Similarly, there are other works which are under construction for the last decade. I am afraid this delay is partly responsible for the high cost that has to be incurred.

Again, in the course of the execution, we expected much honesty and integrity on the part of the engineers and officers in charge of these projects. We were hearing of a lot of corruption and other loopholes in the execution of the Damodar Valley project. Now the same thing is being repeated in regard to the construction of Bhakra Nangal. The Punjab Government recently appointed a Committee to go into the question of the expenditure incurred so far on Bhakra Nangal. The findings of this Committee are far from complimentary. They have stated after due inquiry that there is a good deal of leakage, wasteful expenditure and excess expenditure. They have also pointed out that many officers are responsible for this. They have also indicated that dishonesty and negligence has been considerable in this project. They have also mentioned that in the accounts for Rs. 9 crores they have examined, there is a leakage or wasteful expenditure of Rs. 50 lakhs. We are spending nearly Rs. 170 crores on this project, and it is possible we have to spend more. So it is but right in the interest of the country that only honest officers are placed in charge of this project. There is a lot of scope for corruption. It is a fertile ground for unscrupulous people to adopt unscrupulous means. So necessary care must be taken. I think Government should institute an inquiry to see if the amount that is being spent is spent judiciously and properly.

There are other disquieting reports regarding Bhakra Nangal. Recently

we read in the papers that there is a good deal of silt being accumulated in the reservoir. We have also noted that the villages all round are filled with silt. It has been stated in course of time, 50—60 per cent of the whole reservoir may be silted up and it may then become useless. The entire surrounding area is subject to inundation. It is also subject to landslides. The Sutlej river carries a good deal of silt. So I would like to know what are the precautions adopted by Government to prevent accumulation of silt in the Bhakra area. The entire area is of very poor soil. In fact I know that one famous British engineer who investigated this area was of the opinion that this site was not suited for the construction of such a big dam of such a magnitude—nearly 740 feet high. He was of the opinion that the soil was very poor and there was no proper foundation and that the hills that flank on either side were composed of very poor soil and very loose and disintegrated rock and this area was liable to land sliding. I have got some experience of the land sliding. That is a thing which the Government should remember. Whatever work is done there should be entirely protected against the action of water because the action of water is terrible. It is a huge column of 40 feet. I do not know what will happen. It is a matter for deep consideration by the Government because we have invested nearly Rs. 200 crores and so every possible precaution must be taken. I have asked a question as to what action was taken to prevent this area from being flooded away and I was told that they took up to grouting. They have been inserting cement in some of the crevices. I have seen that area and I have got some experience of these irrigation works. With all these grouting and other things, it is a matter to be considered very deeply and I am sure the Government will examine it from all the aspects and see that the construction is thorough and it is protected against the action of water.

17 hrs.

I show some to some of the irrigation works that are being taken up in my own State. I have already pointed out that the Bhadra reservoir is under construction for the last fourteen years. It has not been concluded. I do not know with whom the fault lies—may be the Central Government or the State Government. Whatever it is, it is the combined responsibility both of the State Government and the Central Government to see that this reservoir is completed as early as possible and water is let out for useful purposes. We have been waiting for the last fourteen years yet we do not see any trace of it. Again, I must point out that the Mysore State has only about 25 million acres under cultivation. Out of this, only about a million and a half acres are under irrigation. The rest are subjected to the vagaries of rainfall. Good rainfall means good crop; otherwise they have to starve and there is famine. For such a big State, to have only 1½ million acres under irrigation means very little. There are great facilities. The Mysore Government and the local people have been representing that the Central Government should give its assistance for the construction of dams in Malaprabha, Ghataprabha, Krishna, Bhima and various other rivers.

It is quite necessary that if we have to satisfy the people throughout the country, we have to take up minor irrigation works. It is not only a question of having new minor irrigation works but also the question of restoration of the old tanks. Hyderabad, Mysore, and other States have got a number of minor tanks. The Mysore State has got nearly 30,000 of them but almost all of them are silted up. The State Government is not able to take up this work partly for want of funds and the Central Government must take this up very seriously. If we want the existing tanks to function effectively and usefully, every tank must be restored and if they are restored the acreage under irrigation will certainly increase.

Similarly, Sir, hereafter more attention must be paid for the construction of minor works. It is true that a big irrigation project will serve the area and also serve the purpose of generating electricity. But I would like to give one example. We have got the Bhakra Nangal project. We have spent Rs. 200 crores. Supposing these Rs. 200 crores had been distributed throughout the country and instead of one dam about 400 smaller irrigation works had been completed, you would have conferred benefit on every part of the country. Therefore, I am glad that the Government intends to lay more stress on minor irrigation works.

Coming to power, regarding Shrivati, the Deputy Minister, of course, just now gave some sort of an assurance that tenders will be called and quotations will be accepted.

Shri Bathi: Tenders have been called already.

Shri Mohammed Imam: Tenders were called long ago and quotations have been received, but they were held back for want of foreign exchange. They have been very sympathetic, and being sympathetic they have been holding out such assurances from the beginning. They have never said 'no'. I want a categorical assurance from him ..

Mr. Chairman: From me or from him?

Shri Mohammed Imam: From the Minister, Sir, through you, an assurance that this Shrivati project will be completed by the end of 1960. I need hardly state that this State has been starved of power. They have not got a single H.P. in the State. Therefore, I hope he will realise the urgency of the situation and the Minister will come out with a categorical assurance in his speech that the necessary foreign exchange has been allotted and the assistance also has been sanctioned.

[Shri Mohammed Imam]

Sir, electricity is generated through three means in this country. Firstly by harnessing river falls, secondly through thermal stations, and thirdly by having multi-purpose irrigation and electricity combined schemes. Of these, I can assure you that generating electricity by harnessing waterfalls is the cheapest. It is not only the cheapest, but the most convenient also. It is a less cumbersome process. For example, the Shravati project when it is completed will generate one million kws, nearly one-third of the total target that has been provided under the Second Five Year Plan. The cost of production is very little. It comes to about Rs. 500 per kw, whereas the cost of production under Bhakra or any other project comes to Rs. 2000. Cost of production of electricity by letting out water from a tap is always very costly, not only because there is very little height but also because the machinery required is very elaborate and costly compared to that required for producing electricity by harnessing waterfalls. Producing electricity through multi-purpose schemes is always three to four times costly. Thermal station, of course, works out cheaper and is practicable. It is cheaper in areas which are near coal bearing areas. Even out of these two, I submit that wherever there are waterfalls, promising waterfalls, the Government must see that they are given preference. For example, there is the Kalli waterfall in North Kanara. I am glad that the Koyna waterfall has been taken up for harnessing. There are a number of waterfalls in the western ghats. There is the Maikedat waterfall, and there is also the Baramula waterfall, I think, in Coorg. Each waterfall is capable of generating not less than 300,000 kw of power and it will be much cheaper. If we give due preference to generate electricity through these waterfalls, I think it will cost less of money and it would also be more practicable. Through these you can create an all-India grid.

. Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Mohammed Imam: My time is up. I have only one more point. I am glad that the Government has been paying increased attention to the development of irrigation and power. Nature's bounty has no doubt endowed this country with many natural advantages. There are a number of rivers both big and small which can be harnessed. There are a number of waterfalls which can be harnessed and be made useful to the advantage of man. It is left to the Government to take advantage of all these conveniences and all these resources that have been bestowed on us by God. If we fail to utilise them it is our mistake.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member for East Khandesh. After that, the hon. Member for Bankura. At present I am not in a position to announce any more names. It will depend upon the self-denying ordinance that the hon. Members impose upon themselves.

Shri Raghunath Singh rose—

Shri Harish Chandra Mathar: We are not sitting beyond 6 o'clock in any case.

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the magnitude of expenditure on irrigation which is of the order of Rs. 400 crores in the second Plan indicates the importance of the subject as well as the need for a cautious reorientation of our policy. It is a good thing that today the Government has diverted its attention from major works to medium and minor works. As the Mehta Committee rightly drew its conclusion, in the course of the first Plan, we had major works but then only 47 per cent of the physical targets was reached at a cost of 92 per cent of the expenditure, whereas in the case of the minor irrigation works, we find that 91 per cent of the targets was achieved by only 63 per cent of the cost.

It has been our painful experience so far as the major works are concerned that even the estimates with

regard to the conveying capacity of canals fell wide of the mark. Often it was noticed that the conveying capacity of canals was only capable of carrying 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the designed discharge, and the design discharge was not adequate to cater for the crops to be irrigated. Often the yield per acre was exaggerated. Apart from the estimates which fell wide of the mark, apart from the alarming increase in the costs, we notice that in some major irrigation projects or multi-purpose projects, progress is painfully slow. I desire to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that so far as the Koyna project in my constituency is concerned, Rs. 4 crores were set aside in the first Plan but only Rs. 2½ crores were spent. In the second Plan, though 29 crores have been set aside so far only Rs. 9 crores have been spent. On the electrical side, we find that a contract agreement for transformers has been finalised but I do not know when the equipment would be made available. Though the hon. Minister says that the first generating set is expected to be commissioned in the monsoon of 1961, I may tell him that we have got grave doubts about it. I hope the hon. Minister will pay attention and expedite this project.

The second point that I desire to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that in the first Plan we had never considered the criteria for starting various irrigation works. Had we taken into consideration the cost of irrigation per acre it would have been good. There are various factors which go into the irrigation schemes. We are taking the irrigation cost per acre, but even then, one notices very wide divergences between various States. For instance, in the Mayurakshi project, Rs. 15 crores were expected to be spent. The cost of irrigation per acre comes to Rs. 226. In the case of the Lower Bhavani, it costs Rs. 450 per acre.

For the Mahanadi delta, it comes to Rs. 85 per acre. One does not know how the schemes are selected. It is necessary that this factor must be taken into consideration, particularly in view of the fact that the fuller utilisation of irrigation waters poses a problem of its own.

There are two schemes in respect of which I desire to invite the attention of the hon. Minister. One is the Hatnur scheme in the East Khandesh district. It is the one district where the irrigated land is only 0.4 per cent, which is I think the lowest in India. The Hatnur project will irrigate 5,20,000 acres if storage dams are constructed at Hatnur in Bhusaval taluka.

The second project to which I invite attention is the Girna scheme. At one time, it was expected that this scheme would cost Rs. 9 crores and would give relief to scarcity areas and talukas in East and West Khandesh. Then, the scheme was revised with the result that only one taluka will get plentiful water, whereas the other talukas would be deprived of water completely. May I tell hon. Minister that if the good points of both the schemes—old and new Girna schemes—are combined, may be the Ministry might have to spend Rs. 2 crores or Rs. 3 crores extra, and it can be done. It is very necessary to re-revise this scheme in the interest of scarcity talukas.

Coming to power generation, it is true that the Central Water and Power Commission, the Power Wing especially, has been doing excellent work. As the hon. Deputy Minister has pointed out, the power wing has been examining tenders received by State Governments and project authorities for generating plant and equipment. It has been preparing and scrutinising designs and specifications of tenders. It has been offering comments on hydro-electric schemes and thermal power stations. It has been preparing detailed load survey reports for various States. This is very important. When you consider power

[Sri Nambir Bharucha]

projects, the load factor has to be thoroughly studied. Otherwise, all your capital costs per kilowatt and cost of production per unit are likely to go wrong. The Power Wing also looks into co-ordinated development of power resources and also conducts, in a minor way, I presume, research on power engineering problems. While we appreciate all this work, it merely amounts to this that the Power Wing is merely the handmaid to the State Governments and the project authorities. I would ask, how does the Power Wing help in the formulation of a "sound, adequate and uniform national power policy", which is a main responsibility of the Central Electricity Authority under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. I appreciate that the formulation of a sound national policy in the matter of power generation is not an easy task, particularly in a country where distances are vast terrain is very peculiar and there is often mixed economy in power generation. So, control and regulation of utilities becomes a special problem. Even then, it is very necessary that some type of broad features of a national power policy are laid down.

So far as I feel, it is the shortage of funds that hampers this. So, a beginning should be made by the creation of a Central Power Development Fund, which will finance in the first place investigations and collection of data concerning generation and distribution of electrical power, which will speed up the study of load patterns. Load pattern is a changing thing and unless it is speedily done, the results become useless and outmoded. Also, the fund will lead to a study of possibilities of manufacturing standard generating equipment and it will draw up a code of preferences in supply and preferential tariffs to certain categories of consumers for adoption by the State Electricity Board. I am of the opinion that it will not be possible to lay down a national policy of any character except drawing up a code of pre-

ference in the supply and preferential tariffs. But even then such sort of codes should be drawn up and I think this point should be looked into carefully.

There is one small point, small in a way, because very little amount is set aside for this, but very major in its potentialities, to which I refer before I close. I refer to the development of small standardised self-contained power generating units. When I read about it I was quite pleased that after all we are hitting the nail right on the head. But when I opened the Demand for Grants I was surprised to find that only Rs. 25,000 were allotted for this subject. I wonder what the Power Wing or, for the matter of that, anybody can do in the matter of developing small standardised self-contained power generating units with Rs. 25,000 only. To my mind, the pattern of power generation in India might be such that our entire countryside may have to be dotted with these small power generating units so that in the remote places electricity may be had, if not, of an economic rate, at least at reasonable rate. It is an important plank in our national plan and if we develop these small units and distribute them all over the country, perhaps that may form a big plank in our national policy. To my mind what charkha has been to textile industry in the matter of production of cloth, the small standardised self-contained power generating units is to the gigantic power stations in the field of power generation. I hope that the development of such an important thing will not be neglected by the Ministry merely because it requires some money. I hope all the points raised by me will be taken into consideration by the Ministry.

Dr. Pashupati Mandal (Bankura-Reserved-Sch. Castes): Mr Chairman, at the outset I wish to speak on the Kangsabati project in Bankura district, which I have the privilege to represent. From the information given in the literature drawn up by the Irrigation and Power Minister I find

that the approval for the project is still awaited from the Planning Commission. It fulfils every condition for approval. It is in a scarcity area, it is a major scheme for irrigation and a little foreign exchange is required for it. The progress of the work is slow inasmuch as sufficient funds are not available. So long the construction has been carried out from the meagre resources of the State Government. Local people have been disheartened to hear that the completion of the work will take a long long time.

In the modified project report there are two phases for construction. In the first phase there will be construction of one dam on the Kangsabati river and some portion of the canals, for which a scheme has been drawn up amounting to Rs 7,27,50,000. It will irrigate about 2 lakh acres during the Second Plan period, though the provision in the Second Plan is only Rs 475 lakhs. If a further sum of Rs 150 lakhs could be allotted during the Second Plan period, the construction work of the first phase of the scheme could be speeded up so as to bring a major portion of the 2 lakh acres mentioned above under irrigation by the end of the Second Plan period. If a decision is taken immediately in favour of supplying finance, then the full advantage may be taken up in the remaining two years of the Second Plan period. As the first phase of the scheme comprises construction of one reservoir having practically half the storage of the project as a whole, it would be feasible to increase the irrigable area in the years to follow up to about 4 lakhs acres by which time the second reservoir will be ready and would enable increasing the irrigation potential gradually to 8 lakhs acres.

Unless an early decision is made in respect of this extra amount of Rs 1.5 crores, the construction would proceed slowly and irrigation will be delayed. The Programme Adviser of the Planning Commission from the revenue side and the Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission have

visited the area and all have agreed that the commanded area of this project needs irrigation very much and is quite different from that of the D.V.C. and even the Mayurakshi Project. On the return side also, the picture is good.

There is some difficulty of foreign exchange. Although it was agreed that sufficient foreign exchange would be available for procuring spare parts for machinery (on the assurance of which old machines had been procured from other projects), the project has not been provided with any foreign exchange so far, for this purpose. It is suggested that the project may be given a blanket cover of foreign exchange during the Second Plan—required Rs 900,000—against which the project authorities should be able to submit their import application from time to time which would, in the normal course, be scrutinised by the Union Government authorities concerned. This is the policy which is generally followed in the case of other major projects.

Uptill now, the project is being constructed with funds as available from the meagre resources of the State Government. Until the project is passed by the Planning Commission—it is now pending in their hands—the loan from the Centre would not be forthcoming and, therefore, the Planning Commission is to be requested for early passing of the scheme.

Appreciable progress has been made in the construction as detailed below. Silabati barrage construction is nearing completion including a good length of the canal taking from this project. As there is severe demand for irrigation in Indpur-Simlapal area of the district of Bankura, the Engineers are making attempts to start irrigation in about 40,000 acres from this very year. The construction of the first dam is well advanced and if funds are made available, it should be possible to complete it by the end of the Second Plan period.

[Dr. Pashupati Mandal]

Feeder canal and main canal taking off from this dam is also well advanced. The programme is also to take up the construction of the Garbeta Branch canal in the district of Midnapore in a month or so so that canal works may progress in both the districts Bankura and Midnapore simultaneously. The progress appears to be very satisfactory, but handicapped by financial limitations.

Then, I come to the Ganga barrage which is also called the Farraka barrage. The West Bengal Assembly passed a unanimous resolution and if I read a few lines, the whole House will be convinced of the urgency of the scheme. It says:

"...this Assembly is of opinion that for improving the food situation in West Bengal, for improving irrigation and drainage facilities in the State, for improving health-conditions, for the expansion of industry and trade, for saving the Calcutta Port by improving the now fastly deteriorating river Hooghly-Bhagirathi, for maintaining the supply of drinking water in Calcutta by keeping down salinity for facilitating irrigation in the neighbouring districts of Murshidabad and Malda, and for making possible an all-weather water route from Calcutta to Bihar and U.P. and the construction of a rail-road link between South Bengal and North Bengal, and for various other reasons, the Farraka Barrage Scheme cannot be delayed any more for any reason whatsoever."

This scheme is very important from several points of view.

The Calcutta Port earns about 50 per cent of foreign exchange, that is, about Rs. 300 crores. Fifty per cent of our foreign trade passes through Calcutta port. It serves the hinterland of U.P., Bihar, Nepal, Tibet, West Bengal, Assam, Orissa and some portions of

Madhya Pradesh. It provides the important facilities of water transport which this region needs during the First and the Second Plan periods. It is of great help to the newly sprung up industries in Durgapur, Rourkela and Bhilai. The Railway Ministry often says that the irregularity of train service in this region is due to engines being out of order due to the salinity of water and so on. If this project is undertaken then it will serve as a proper interlink with West Bengal, North Bengal and Assam.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications have already spent Rs. 200 crores for the development of Calcutta port. This will help road transport and, this will provide a link with North Bengal. It will also create water transport up to U.P. and Bihar permanently.

It is very important that the Health Ministry should provide adequate water supply to Calcutta in which about 50 lakhs of people reside. It is not possible to provide adequate water supply through the tube-wells. It has been found that if the discharge increases, then, water is drawn from the sea and it becomes saline.

As you know, Sir, West Bengal is a thickly-populated area. More food could be produced in this region if you provide sufficient irrigation facilities there. These schemes will irrigate Malda, Murshidabad and other areas.

From the point of view of our imports and exports also, this port plays a significant role. Fifty per cent of the import and export trade depends upon this port. This is a very important foreign-exchange earning centre. This aspect should be appreciated by all the Ministries. The development of this port is of great importance to each and every Ministry.

The Farraka barrage scheme is very important. It should be taken in the Second Five Year Plan itself. If it is

not possible, you should give it top-most priority and include it in the Third Five Year Plan. Due to repeated investigations, this has not been included in the previous Plan periods. So, my request is: "Do not press for further investigation at present". Then, it will not be included even in the Third Five Year Plan. If more investigation is required then I suggest to run parallel investigation and construct as is in the general practice followed in other major projects. I hope the Ministry will see that steps are taken for the approval of Kangsabati project and also to see that work is taken up at Farraka barrage within the Second Five Year Plan.

Mr. Chairman: I have to tell the House that six hours have been allotted for this Demand. In that case, we shall have to sit up to 8-20

An hon. Member: No, Sir

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Let the hon. Minister reply on Thursday

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Let the hon. Minister go through our speeches

Shri Raghunath Singh: We should have a chance to speak.

Mr. Chairman: Shall we sit up to 8-20? (*Interruptions*)

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The Business Advisory Committee said that one hour may be allowed at the discretion of the Chair.

Shri D. C. Sharma: We not only know the value of water and electricity, but we also know the value of sitting late.

Shri D. V. Rao (Nalgonda): Fortunately or unfortunately, in Andhra Pradesh, there are a good number of schemes which have been started even before the First Five Year Plan, namely, the Godavari Valley Scheme, the Tungabhadra scheme and some others, but to our disappointment, in the Second Five-Year Plan, some of them have not been continued.

When the Second Plan was being formulated, some of the schemes which had already been started in the First Five Year Plan were taken up; they were called continuing schemes. Some new schemes were also added. But in Andhra Pradesh it is our misfortune that some of the continuing schemes which ought to have been continued have not been taken up, and they are the Godavari scheme and the Tungabhadra High Level Canal scheme. It is evident that previously, Government had invested some money over these projects. So, if they are stopped or delayed after some time for one reason or the other, then the loss that we have to incur is very much; in this way, these projects are becoming more costly, and in the end it is the peasants and the people who have to bear the whole loss either in the form of high betterment charges or in the form of higher taxation.

I am glad that a few hours before, the hon. Minister was kind enough to announce that the Tungabhadra High Level Canal scheme be approved and also sanctioned, if I understood him correctly. But in this respect, we want a further assurance that the whole scheme will be so phased that it will be continued without any lag or without any gap in between the first and the second phases or between whatever phases there may be. That is one submission. My next submission is that the capacity of flow of water in these canals should not be reduced. We want an assurance to that effect from the hon. Minister, and I hope the hon. Minister will be kind enough to give this assurance.

The next project that I would like to bring to the notice of the House is the Nagarjunasagar project. It has been previously said that this is one of the biggest projects, but due to paucity of funds, this is being delayed. It is not only that, but even up till now, the entire scheme has not been either approved or sanctioned, as far as I know. It is only one phase which has been approved, for which

[Shri D. V. Rao]

about Rs. 80 crores have been allotted, and only half of the area that is to be irrigated would be covered; that is, only about 16 lakhs of acres would be irrigated instead of about 30 lakhs of acres which was the original estimate of the area to be irrigated under this project. Besides, the hydro-electric schemes which ought to have been included in this have also not been included. Even now, the project work is being hindered for want of supply of essential materials like steel. A few weeks ago, the whole work has had to be held up for want of supply of steel for at least two weeks. If work goes on at this rate, not only the first phase but whatever phases there may be, will be delayed for three or four years more, and this again would mean a loss to the country and to the peasants of this area in particular because it is they who have to pay more betterment levy.

There is one more scheme which is being held up for want of supply of steel, and that is Krishna barrage scheme as it is called. In regard to this, the hon. Minister himself paid a tribute and said that the work was going on ahead of the schedule, and it was so. But for the last so many months there was no steel for shutters and the whole work has stopped, and due to this, even after nearing completion, further irrigation with the help of this project is not being possible.

There is another scheme called the Ramagundam thermal scheme which was started even before the First Five Year Plan. It is quite near the coal belt there and it is very cheap also to complete that scheme, but even now it has not been taken up; or, even if it is taken up, work is being done so slowly that it appears in the near future there is no possibility of completing it.

Some of the previous speakers have mentioned about Pochampad and some other schemes also. The Pochampad

scheme is a continuation of the old Godavari river valley scheme started even before the First Five Year Plan.

17.41 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

As the House knows, the Kadam Dam which was breached this year was a part of that scheme. The Kadam dam was constructed and some land is also irrigated, but before the second stage was started, the dam of the first stage has breached. In spite of this, of late there has been a proposal that a dam be constructed across the Godavari near Pochampad to irrigate some three to four lakh acres at a cost of Rs. 16 crores. In this connection, I have also a suggestion. Due to lack of foreign exchange the Devanur hydro-electric scheme has been held up. Some Rs. 10 crores have been provided for that in the Second Plan. That whole money may be diverted, and some more money also sanctioned, so that the whole scheme may be included in the Second Plan and continued during the Third Plan. This area of Telengana and Rayalaseema is a scarcity area. Andhra Pradesh is said to be a surplus State, but only four districts in the whole of the State are surplus districts, and we are getting some rice from out of them, but it is only marketable surplus. If the Andhra people begin to take two meals a day, I do not think you will get any rice from Andhra Pradesh for the neighbouring States. That is the situation. Therefore, we have to take up all these important schemes which have been already started and which have been held up for lack of funds. If these schemes are taken up and completed as soon as possible, certainly the whole land will be developed, get irrigated, and there will be enough of foodgrains for local consumption as well as for export to the neighbouring States. It will certainly be a very helpful and good contribution to the economy of the country itself.

Therefore, I appeal to the Ministry that two things have to be taken into consideration while allotting funds. Every year moneys unspent on so many schemes lapse. It is my proposal, not only for Andhra but for other States also, that all this unspent money on various schemes in the various Ministries also should be diverted to these schemes which are very profitable and very necessary for producing foodgrains as also raw materials required for our industries. In this way, we have to make up the necessary financial resources. This is my first suggestion.

My second suggestion is that scarcity areas like the Rayalaseema districts, Telegana area, Srikakulam and other districts should be given sufficient importance or priority in the matter of taking up schemes. It is no use refusing irrigation facilities due to whatever reasons in areas where the people are in need of irrigation and want it. We want to build up an irrigation system in which the local peasantry participates. It is not possible under the present state of things. There should not only be need for irrigation, but there should also be a desire for irrigation. In this respect, I would like to mention the Telengana districts and Rayalaseema districts. I think the whole of the peasantry there is irrigation-minded and no sooner than the project is completed, the peasantry will be ready to use the water. There will not be any lag between completion of the project and utilisation of water.

One more thing about the betterment levy. Of course, today Punjab is affected by it. Tomorrow other States also will have to face this problem. It will be seriously coming up in other States. Nowadays we are thinking of giving so many incentives to various sectors of our economy, the industrial sector, private agencies and so on. But we are not thinking of any incentives for the poor peasant. If we go on increasing the betterment levy on the peasantry, how are they to pay so much of taxation? We are

collecting taxes from them in the name of these projects. At the same time, when the projects are completed, we say that the expenses on projects should be borne by the peasantry themselves. For this we again tax them. How can we enthuse them if we follow this policy? This should not happen.

Most of these projects are multi-purpose projects. The peasantry has its share of the benefits. Not only that. What about the raw materials that peasants grow in these irrigated lands? It is the industry which benefits thereby. Therefore, the burden should not fall on the peasantry alone, the other sectors also should have their share. Industry should bear its own share. For this, the whole system of betterment levy should be reviewed and it has to be worked out in such a way that the small peasant should not have any burden, even the richer section also should have their due share, but not unnecessary or burdensome share.

If we re-formulate our policy on these lines, there is every chance of the schemes going ahead.

Mr Speaker: The hon Minister

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Are we sitting till 6.30?

Mr Speaker: Yes

Shri Naushir Bharucha: This unexpected prolongation of the session completely upsets our work. In the Business Advisory Committee, we said that the sitting would be upto 6 P.M.

Mr Speaker: Hon Members want some more time. Today we carry on with this. After all, we have to get along with the business. Unfortunately hon Members have no right to send substitutes here. We have to get along. The next working day we have to start discussion on the Demands of another Ministry. Occasionally, hon Members have to sit a little longer. If Shri Naushir

[Mr. Speaker]

Bharucha raises objection, what am I to do?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Seven hours a day are too much

Mr. Speaker: I am also sitting. It is not as if I am going home

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: An hour ago there was no quorum

Mr. Speaker: It is in their hands. He is one of the important Whips of his Party. I would request hon Members to continue and dispose of these Demands. Otherwise, this will have to be carried over to the next working day.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I make a submission? Some more hon Members may be allowed to speak and the hon Minister may reply tomorrow—the next working day.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): We should be allowed to speak. We shall make our points and he may give an exhaustive reply on the next working day. There is the canal water dispute, etc. (Interruptions)

An Hon Member: Five minutes for each hon Member.

Mr Speaker: Hereafter the only alternative for me is to sit with the whole House in the Central Hall when I fix the time. I have been progressively increasing the time from 60, 70, 80 and 90 hours to 120 hours. Shri Bharucha was also there. We divided the time. They also apportioned priorities. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to increase the length of the hours during the day; it is in the hands of Providence. It is not as if I want to stand in the way. Let us finish this. Let other hon. Members be given some other opportunity. From time to time when an occasion arises, I will give them any amount of time for discussion. Now, let us get through this.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon Members for the interest they have shown in the work connected with the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. During the discussion several points were raised and some of them had already been answered by the Deputy Minister. I shall deal with a few of those points. I was specifically asked about two or three things. I was asked in this House during the discussion to say something about Ganga Barrage, Gandak and about Shrivati.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What about Godavari Valley—Pochampad?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I was asked to specifically deal with this question. That request was made by the hon Members who spoke here today. Therefore, I mention them.

So far as Shrivati is concerned, on a previous occasion in this House, I expressed myself in these terms that probably no Member of this House was so enamoured of that scheme as myself. Now without going into the whole story, I am able to say today for the information of the hon Members that for all practical purposes the scheme has been adopted to be executed and as much of foreign exchange as is required for that has also been allowed.

Shri Mohammed Imam: What does this 'for all practical purposes' mean?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I am not uttering any word here in some separate or concealed sense, I am not concealing something and saying something. I am quite clear and straightforward and I am saying what is in my mind. 'For all practical purposes' means that so far the work was only theoretical and now the time for practical work has come and the work is begun. That is what I meant. That is the story about Shrivati.

As far as Gandak project is concerned, it is true that the scheme was conceived long ago. The site at which the construction of the dam has

to be made for the purpose of taking canals, one to U.P. and the other to Bihar, is in Nepal area. The Centre has been, in this matter, dealing with the Nepal Government probably for the last two years or more, and so far it has not been able to obtain their consent for the use of that land which is involved in this scheme. During this very period one thing happened. The elections began there for the purpose of formation of a new government there.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: - Sir, there is no quorum.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I can continue, probably, without quorum also.

Mr. Speaker: Having regard to the average attendance every day, there is quorum.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): There is always quorum during the Question Hour.

Mr. Speaker: All hon. Members who are interested are here.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Government was not willing to co-operate when we requested to extend the time even by half an hour. That was very unkind of them. We have been co-operating in everything. There are several hon. Members who want to speak on this subject. The hon. Member there who comes from the famine districts of Anantapur wanted to speak, but he was not given any time.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: Our requests were ignored.

Mr. Speaker: I find from the list of speakers that as many as 20 to 22 hon. Members have spoken.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: There are States and also groups from which no one has been called.

Mr. Speaker: I have tried to accommodate all the States.

Shri Bami Reddy (Cuddapah): We may be given five minutes each.

Mr. Speaker: For that also you need a quorum. Now, let us get through this today. Hereafter, hon. Members will sit in the Central Hall every evening before they disperse or immediately after they disperse and give me an agreed list of speakers within the time allotted.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: No representative was called from some groups and even States.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): It is not only a question of States. My submission is that from a particular State the same persons are called and others are never called.

Mr. Speaker: Their parties must take care of that. Let us get through this, and I would request hon. Members here to keep the quorum.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: There is no quorum now.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, the bell may be rung. The hon. Minister must see to it that there is quorum. Without a quorum even those hon. Members who are willing to sit become helpless. When the House is sitting beyond six o'clock, the Minister must take personal responsibility to see that there is quorum. How many times am I to ring the bell?

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: There is quorum.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. We shall get along.

18 hrs -

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I was speaking about Gandak project, and I was saying that the matter was waiting for sometime for obtaining the consent of the Nepal Government in regard to the use of the land which is involved. In the meanwhile, there arose a question between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In regard to that I made a statement in this House, and having reminded the hon. Members of that statement, I need not say anything at all about that. But that thing was mentioned in that statement and

[Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim]

the result was that difference was resolved. The Uttar Pradesh Government consented to participate in the scheme as a full-fledged partner and other matters also were satisfactorily decided between the two Governments, and at that time also I was present. So, so far as the Gandak project is concerned, it is ready to be taken up except for the reason that the Nepal Government had to give consent. Everybody knows that they are having elections in Nepal; elections are going on there. They have finished now, and so far probably the Government has not been formed yet.

18.03 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair]

Till the Government is formed in Nepal, it is not possible to obtain any sort of consent from them. Therefore, till then, we have to wait. As soon as that consent is received, then the scheme will be taken up. The Ministry, the Planning Commission and everybody else, including the Government of India, are quite in favour of it. They have accepted it and they are prepared to begin it.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Till the agreement is made with the Nepal Government, the canal work may begin from Bihar or U.P. side.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I said you have to begin work there at the land which belongs to another man who has not yet given consent. You will be trespassing on his land if you go and do something on the spot. There is nothing to be done on paper. What was required to be done on paper is already done. On the spot the work has to commence. Therefore, if you go there without the consent, then we will be trespassing and we can be prosecuted. I do not know if there is any law in the Nepal Government with regard to that. But to begin before that is not possible.

As far as the Ganga Barrage is concerned, I consider that this barrage is

not a scheme of West Bengal alone. It is not a local scheme. In my opinion at least that scheme is an all-India one. The port of Calcutta is of all-India importance, and if any deterioration has been going on there, and if that difficulty is removed, and if the difficulties in the way of sea-borne traffic are done away with,—they are there—then, it will be for the good of the whole of India. Therefore, I am sure the hon. Members from West Bengal will feel convinced when I say that we do not see that thing only from the point of view of Bengal. We view it from the point of view of India. That is one thing.

There is another point. The deterioration which is there in the port has been there since 1853; it is more than a century old. So, something has to be done expeditiously and at an early date in order to remove those difficulties. But much time had to be spent in the technical examination of that scheme, which was conceived. In that connection, one gentleman, Dr. Hensen, was invited and he was entrusted with the examination. He examined the scheme and made a report. As I said in the other House, that scheme has been examined and the report has been read by the Central Water and Power Commission and other engineers. They have come to know that there are certain other points about which suggestions had been made by Dr. Hensen, but he had left them for further examination by others. So, technical examination to that extent has been done. Now we have reached the stage when we are in a position to say that technically that scheme is sound and can be taken up. Anything which remains relates to the operational part only.

So, our desire that the scheme should be taken up is there. The soundness of the scheme is there. Some hon. Members have said today that it was said sometime before—I was not there in this House at that time—that on account of the fear of Pakistan, the Government of India are hesitating

to take up this scheme. I think that should not have been said. There is no question of any fear. We are not doing anything which in any way is going to affect adversely the interests of Pakistan. When it is in our mind that it is an innocent scheme from this point of view that it is not going to adversely affect the interests of that country, there can be no fear in the minds of those who have examined it and who own it and who want it for purposes which I have already pointed out. I have already said that this is one of the vital purposes for India as a whole.

The question has been raised as to the date on which it is going to be taken up. I have been working in the irrigation and power department for so many years, but I have not come across any scheme in regard to which we have ever been able to say that on such and such date we will take up any scheme. The only thing is that we are convinced of the necessity; we know its suitability and its soundness and we are prepared to take it up as soon as we can. Last time I said that it will be taken up within the shortest possible time. I repeat it again that it will be taken up whenever it is possible to do so. But it should not be taken to mean that the Government of India or the Ministry are saying something which they do not mean in reality; nothing like that.

Dr. Pashupati Mandal: If it is examined again, it will take two years and by that time, the details of the third Plan will have been finalised

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Unfortunately, I am not able to follow what he has said.

I have already dealt with Sheravati and Gandak projects

Now I take up those points which have been raised which have to be replied to individually. I will first take up the question raised by one hon. Member—I find he is not here—about the floods in Agra. I myself went to Agra with the engineers. I

have toured that area which was flood-ridden. I had gone to Mathura also. I have visited both the places on that occasion. A scheme is required there for the purpose of remedying the evils which were created by the floods in the last rainy season in the year 1958. As far as schemes are concerned, we in the Government of India have so far received only one scheme in the Ministry. That is called Poonchi, the name of some village. That scheme is meant to cover Gurgaon, Bharatpur, Mathura and so on.

An Hon. Member: Grounchi.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I am not able to pronounce that word correctly. About that there is one scheme. That scheme is here and that is being pursued as to what is to be done in regard to that.

Then, I know that all the States, including U.P., have schemes which are under preparation at the present time. They have not so far been received by us. Some might have been received somewhere, I am not certain. But about this I am certain. Schemes are still being prepared by the States and they have not been received by us. As soon as they are received here, after the examination of their technical soundness, they will be taken up and the money which is being provided every year for the purpose will be utilized for those schemes, according to the capacity and needs of each State. So, as far as the conditions prevailing at the time are concerned, one need not be afraid on account of them.

Then something was said about Delhi about the Najafgarh area. In regard to the very heavy flooding there last time a committee was set up to go into it. That committee has devised some scheme and that scheme has not so far been implemented. Probably the technical soundness of that has not so far been examined. All that I can say about it is that cannot be done before the next monsoon. But there is another work which is being done here. There is a nulla there, the name of which I have just forgotten.

An Hon. Member: Najafgarh nulla

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: That has silted up in many places. Work is progressing there at the present moment and it is hoped that before the next monsoon the work will be finished, as far as Najafgarh is concerned.

Now I come to another point which was raised by an hon Member from Orissa, and I regret that I will be making an answer which will be disappointing and for that I wish to be excused.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Don't make that announcement.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: The point is this. The Electricity Supply Act of 1948 has made it incumbent upon the States to form electricity boards in each State. I have come to know today in this House that Orissa has not done it. Now it is desired that should be examined. If I have correctly understood, he has desired that Orissa may be exempted.

Shri Panigrahi: For some years

Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim: . and they may be excused from forming that in that State. At the same time, there is one piece of information with me that there is a notification which has to be issued before the formation of a board, and that notice has already been issued there. There is no provision in the law which enables the Government to exempt any one. A particular action which is the first step has been taken. Notification has been made. Still it is expected that the Government may be able to give exemption in that case. It is so obvious a case that it should not have been conceived by any one that the Government will be able to give any exemption. Nor could such a request be made because, there could be nothing but disappointment in the reply. I might be excused for that if I am not able to do any good here.

Another question was about transmission lines in Orissa. Instead of making a reply orally, I shall read

two or three lines. One hundred and thirty two KV transmission line project in Orissa has already been sanctioned and the Chief Engineer Orissa is taking steps to procure the equipment for it and the C.W. and P.C. are giving the necessary assistance. This line is intended to take Machkund power to the coastal areas of Southern Orissa. This is the reply to the question which was put about this matter.

As far as the Nagarjunasagar project is concerned, it was said that some more money is required.

Shri P. K. Deo: Will the hon Minister throw some light on the Bhum Kund project?

Mr. Chairman: Let the hon Minister have his own say first. Later on, any Member may ask about any particular project.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: As regards the money required and the treatment that has, in the past, been accorded to that State in regard to the giving of money, that would be evident from the two examples which I cite here and after that, I will not say anything. In 1956-57, the provision in the Budget was Rs 300 lakhs, but the actual money which was given for the purpose of that scheme was Rs 396 lakhs. Again in 1957-58, there was a provision of only Rs 550 lakhs, but actually the amount given was Rs 700 lakhs. Then in 1958-59, the provision was Rs 700 lakhs and that sum of Rs 700 lakhs has been given. I can say still that if that request has come or is to come, we can say that we can consider it. If it would be possible for us, we will meet the wishes. Otherwise we will have to be excused for that.

I can say something about the other things. But, time is passing. I take up this Canal water question, that was referred to during the speeches. There were other things also. I might take them up. Unfortunately, now, there is no time. I knew that Members themselves are probably more anxious to

go out of this place than myself. So, I do not want to tax them further on. As far as this Canal water question is concerned, there is one difficulty, my difficulty. Probably Members want to hear that I will be able to tell and say here in this House something very pleasing. In that respect I will be disappointing.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The report of the delegation.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: There are so many such news which appear in the papers. I can say that we, in the Government of India, do not know about those things. They have not been conveyed to us. On whose authority, this has come in the papers, is for them to know. It is for them to know who are responsible for that. I am mentioning this simply because this point was raised during the discussions today. Our delegation is at present in Washington. For the past three months, discussions have been going on and they have not yet come to any conclusion. Another thing I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Members and it is this. Whatever transpires at those meetings are secret. It is an agreement among all these three parties—World Bank, Pakistan and India. They are in duty bound and pledge-bound not to express anything about that.

Shri Naldurgker (Osmanabad): But Pakistan has revealed what has happened there.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I can assure hon. Members of this House that I am not withholding anything and that I am not concealing anything.

An Hon. Member: Let him finish.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Let him keep to his time.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: I conclude, not because I do not want to

speak, but because hon. Members do not want to hear.

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Janjgir): What about the levy of one *naya paisa* tax per cent on electricity consumed for the rural population?

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta—East): On a point of information, Sir. We have been told that the Ganga Barrage Scheme will be taken in the shortest possible time. We are all anxious about this scheme. May we know whether it will be taken up during the Second Plan period or the Third Plan period or later?

An Hon. Member: Or, in the Fourth Plan?

Shri Hathi: We cannot give any definite date.

Mr. Chairman: There are certain cut motions. I take it that the cut motions are not being pressed.

All the Cut Motions were, by leave, withdrawn

Now, 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, 1960, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 64 to 66, 125 and 126 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.”

The motion was adopted.

18-25 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Thursday, March 26, 1959/Chaitra 5, 1881 (Saka).