

**SHRI K. HAMUMANTHAIYA :** To my knowledge, no such decision was taken so far as the Railway Administration goes. So far as payment of wages according to the Act is concerned, we will also cooperate, but this is primarily the function of the Labour Ministry. The cost difference is Rs. 0.2 crores, it is a matter of opinion. I don't say this figure of Rs. 1.6 crores in the exact point. It is only an estimate.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** It has come out in the Press. There is a Press report that the Cabinet which decided this question also discussed how to make implementation of wage board awards by those collieries which have still not implemented them. This is a press report.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He is contradicting it.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** He is escaping the issue.

**SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA :** I am helping you much more than you think.

**SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN :** The Minister said about various implications and loss to the Railways on this account. In respect of the Southern Railway, what would be the extra expenditure involved on this account, in view of the increase of the price of coal? Will this increased amount be given by the Railway Board or subsidised? What is the position?

**SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA :** I have not got the figure separately for each Railway for this question. It depends upon the supply of coal. I may inform him that the Southern zone has taken certain steps to reduce the consumption of coal within three months and therefore they will not come for any trouble on this account. So far as the figures regarding consumption in each zone are concerned, they vary. If the hon. Member wants the figures, I shall furnish him these figures.

**SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN :** May I know whether this extra expenditure, if any, incurred by the Southern Railway, would be met by the Railway Board or by the Southern Railway.

**SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA :** The cost is not met that way. The total budgetary figures will determine all these things.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** That will increase the railway deficit.

**SHRI JAGANNATH RAO :** The clamour of the colliery owners for an increase in price has been there for a number of years. In 1967-70, when they demanded an increase of Rs. 2 per tonne, only 85 paise were given to them. Last year, there was no increase. During this year why should there be an increase? Why should the railways agree to an increase? What is the total off take of coal from the collieries by the railways?

**SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA :** I would have been very happy not to pay increased prices. In fact, that was my case also. But when there was a claim from the other Ministries also which owned the coal mines, it naturally went to an impartial authority like the Bureau who determines the price. So, it has been examined how far and to what extent those demands have to be conceded.

**SHRI JAGANNATH RAO :** What is the total total off take of coal from the collieries?

**MR. SPEAKER :** He should not expect to get answers to so many questions at one time.

**SHRI JAGANNATH RAO :** He has to answer this.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मैं न रोकूँ तो एक ही क्वेश्चन चलता रह सकता है।

दक्षिण बिहार में सिंचाई की अवस्था  
सुविधाएं

\*446. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या सिंचाई और बिज्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि दक्षिण बिहार में सिंचाई की पर्याप्त सुविधाएं नहीं हैं ;

(ख) क्या बहा पर मिर्चाई की सूत्रिध ओ की व्यवस्था करने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचारा गीन है , और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो उमकी मुख्य रूपरेखा का है ?

सिर्चाई और विद्युत् सन्नालय मे उप मंत्री ( श्री बंजनाथ कुरील ) : (क) से (ग) एक विवरण मभा-पट्ट पर रखा जाना है ।

### विवरण

(क) से (ग) बिहार राज्य मिर्चाई आयाग रिपोर्ट (1971) मे मेमा मून्याकन रिया गया है कि दक्षिण बिहार मे पटना, शाहाबाद, गया, भागलपुर और मुंगेर के पाच जिलो मे लगभग 92 लाख एकड कल फसली क्षेत्र मे स इस समय सिफ लगभग 18 लाख एकड मे ही मिर्चाई मनिश्चिन की गई है । मिर्चाई मविद्याआ मे वृद्धि करने के उद्देश्य स मान उच्च स्तरीय नहरे, चन्दन जलाशय और कुछ मध्यम स्कीमे निर्माणाधीन है । बिहार सरकार न पाच नई वृहत मिर्चाई स्कीमो का प्रस्ताव रिया है । इसके अनिर्गित कई अन्य मध्यम और लघु मिर्चाई स्कीमो की सम्भाव्यता के सबध मे अन्वेषण किया जा रहा है ।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : अध्यक्ष जी, विवरण को मैंने देखा है दक्षिण बिहार के पटना, शाहाबाद, गया, भागलपुर और मुंगेर के पाच जिलो मे 92 लाख एकड जमीन के फसली क्षेत्र मे से केवल 18 लाख एकड सिंचित की गई है अर्थात जो सोना उगलनेवाली जमीन है, वह केवल 18 लाख एकड सिंचित हुई, यह बडे आश्चर्य की बात है । मैं जानना चाहता हू कि बाकी 74 लाख एकड जमीन को सिंचित करने के लिये मोन नहर चन्दन जलाशय और अन्य मध्यम स्कीमे क्या तक लागू होगी ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हू कि बिहार सरकार ने किन वृत्त सिंचाई स्कीमो के लिये प्रस्ताव किया है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हू कि मध्यम और लघु

मिर्चाई स्कीमो की सम्भाव्यता का अन्वेषण क्या तक किया जाएगा ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR K L RAO) It would not be possible in all cases to give 100 per cent irrigation but we are trying to make it up to 50 per cent irrigation. At the moment, the irrigation percentage in South Bihar is about 21 per cent. I think our object will be to meet or to try and raise it to 50 per cent.

The hon. Member has referred to certain projects which are under construction such as the Sone High level canal and the Chandan reservoir and so on. The only drawback there is paucity of resources. But I expect that mostly they will be completed within the next three or four years. Then, five other irrigation projects have been proposed by the State Government such as the North Koel project, and the Tilaya and Konar river basin project and two other projects including the Botane project. These projects are still in the stage of preparation and investigation, and some of them have been sent. There are some inter-State aspects to be looked into, and when they are cleared, they will also be taken up. It is not possible to say when these projects will be taken up and completed.

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी दक्षिण बिहार मिर्चाई व्यवस्था मे कमी न होने देने के लिये क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को वन-मागर परियोजना के लिये राजी करेगी ताकि वह इस से अडगा न लगाये बाधक न बने, जो कि मिर्चाई के मामले म इस समय बाधक सिद्ध हो रही है ?

DR K L RAO I do not follow why the Bihar Government will come in the way of the Bansagar project. It is an inter-State project in which Madhya Pradesh, U.P. and Bihar are concerned. Recently, I have had discussions about this project, and I hope that it will be possible for us to settle the inter-State aspects. Only after the question of allocation of waters is settled, it is proposed to take up that project. It

is a matter which requires some inter-State settlement between the States concerned.

**श्री सत्यचरण बेसरा :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मसंगजोड़ डैम और मैथान डैम का पानी, जो बिहार में है, बंगाल को मिलता है। क्या बिहार में उम पानी का उपयोग करने के लिये आप लिफ्ट-इरिगेशन की कोई व्यवस्था करेंगे ?

**MR. SEHAKER :** Order, order.

**श्री सत्यचरण बेसरा :** क्या मंत्री महोदय उस पानी के लिये लिफ्ट इरिगेशन की व्यवस्था करेंगे ?

**DR. K. L. RAO :** So far as the Santhal Parganas and Chota Nagpur are concerned, it is true that the water from the Maithen dam is used lower down. It cannot be used in the Santhal Parganas. There are, other, projects which can be taken up. Unfortunately, at the moment I am sorry Chota Nagpur stands low so far as very irrigation is concerned. Some schemes have to be drawn up. After that, we can consider that.

**श्री सत्यचरण बेसरा :** मेरा सवाल था क्या लिफ्ट इरिगेशन की कोई व्यवस्था की जाएगी ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Order, order.

**SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH :** Is it a fact that whereas in South Bihar irrigation availability is almost 20 per cent, such availability in Madhya Pradesh is less than 5 per cent ? Also, is it true that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been repeatedly requesting the Ministry of Irrigation and Power to take into account their repeated requests not to allow further expansion of irrigation facilities in South Bihar in view of the fact that Madhya Pradesh is backward in this respect and would like to use the waters of the Sone for its own irrigation ?

**DR. K. L. RAO :** The hon. member is probably referring to the Bansagar project. We have not sanctioned it and it will not be

taken up until the question of the division of waters on an inter-state basis is settled.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA :** While Government are taking up this project, would they also go in for minor irrigation schemes like tubewells and pumping sets to cover particularly the three districts ?

**DR. K. L. Rao :** Quite so. There are good possibilities of minor irrigation in this area. That is a subject dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture.

#### Reopening of Howrah-Amta Light Railways in West Bengal

\*447 **SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are re-examining the possibilities of re-opening the Howrah-Amta Light Railways in the District of Howrah (West Bengal); and

(b) if so, when a final decision on this issue is expected to be taken ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :** (a) No, Sir, However, the West Bengal Government is considering the possibilities.

(b) It depends upon West Bengal Government.

**SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU :** Is the hon. Minister aware that during her election tour of West Bengal in the area served by this light railway, the Prime Minister gave an assurance to an audience in Howrah district at a place called Bednan to the effect that the Central Government will make arrangements to reopen this light railway ? If so, what is the progress in that regard ?

**SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA :** I would like the hon. member to produce a copy of any such promise made.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** I do not have a secretariat that he has, nor do I