

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, March 15, 1976/Phalguna 25,
1897 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Nepalese Irrigation Team's visit India

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*101 SHRI VASANT SATHE.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
AND IRRIGATION be pleased to State

(a) whether a high-powered team
from the Nepalese Irrigation Ministry
visited New Delhi in February, 1976,

(b) whether it helped Indian authori-
ties in probing the causes of delay
in implementing certain Indian aided
river projects in Nepal, and

(c) if so salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH
SINGH). (a) to (c) A statement is
laid on the Table of the House

Statement

(a) to (c) A team of four officers
of His Majesty's Government of Nepal
visited New Delhi in the third week of
February 1976, and held discussions
with the officers of the Government of
India with regard to—

(1) Design and construction of Ne-
pal Western Gandak Canal

(2) Completion and handing over of
Nepal Eastern Gandak Canal

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(3) Review of the estimates prepar-
ed by His Majesty's Government of
Nepal relating to—

(i) Renovation and extension of
Chandra Canal

(ii) Pumped Canal, and

(iii) Distribution system of West-
ern Kosi Canal

Design discharge of the Western Gan-
dak Canal was finalized and a phased
programme of its construction was
agreed upon subject to timely handing
over of the land by HMG Nepal and
their giving certain facilities for expe-
diting the construction. As regards
Eastern Gandak Canal the programme
of handing over of the Head Regula-
tor as well as the Canal and distribu-
tion system in sections was finalized.
As regards the review of the estimates
for the works mentioned in (3)
above it was decided that HMG Ne-
pal will furnish additional data and a
team of officers from India will visit
the project area with a view to modi-
fying the estimates suitably.

SHRI VASANT SATHE. At the
outset I would like to welcome and
congratulate the leaders of our two
great countries Nepal and India, for
ushering in a new era of joint energy
co-operation. I would like to know,
however, from the hon. Minister if
he would seriously consider making
both water and power a central sub-
ject so as to facilitate speedy imple-
mentation of mutually beneficial ef-
fort for harnessing water and energy
resources. What measures is the
government taking to eliminate the
causes of delay? Would these be
discussed during the visit of the hon.
Prime Minister of Nepal to India in
the next week? I would also like to
know what specific programmes the
government have for this joint co-
operation.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: The question is a very limited one, but the supplementaries are very wide. The question which has been put by the hon. Member was only whether a Nepalese team visited and what were the discussions and what were the solutions and what were the outcomes of that meeting. But today the hon. Member has asked a supplementary which covers a wide range of subjects. I may inform the House that a team of high officials from the Government of India would visit Nepal on the 20th of this month and this shall be a sort of probing team which will go into the details of the matters concerning the Himalayan rivers and the joint project for the hydro-electric water resources, flood control and irrigation measures. We shall also take the opportunity to discuss these issues with the Nepalese Prime Minister when he comes to this country.

SHRI VASANT SATHI: I am really surprised by what the hon. Minister said that the supplementary that I asked was not relevant. I thought it is not for him to decide whether it is relevant or not. You will see for yourself how the reply which he has given covers so many projects which have wide range of implementation. May I know what are the guidelines which you have in mind for a joint venture? You have today a multiplicity of organisations here in this country while Nepal has formed one single power and Energy Authority. You have so many bodies and so the functions overlap. Are you thinking of having one organisation in India which will undertake such works? What is the thinking on these lines?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: It is a good suggestion for action.

श्री मुहम्मद जबीलुर्रहमान : स्पीकर साहब, मैं आप के जरिये मोहनराम बजौर साहब से जानना चाहता हूँ—जितनी भी नदियाँ भारत में हैं, करीब-करीब सारी नेपाल से आती हैं जैसे कांसी

गण्डक महानदी, कनकई बगरह। इन में जो बाढ़ें आती हैं उनमें न सिर्फ हम को नुकसान होता है, बल्कि नेपाल को भी नुकसान होता है। क्या आप के पास कोई ऐसी योजना है या पिछली बातचीत में कुछ ऐसी योजनाओं के सुझाव दिए गए जिनसे फ्लड-कंट्रोल हो, बिजली पैदा हो, डैम बनाये जाए, ताकि उनसे न सिर्फ हिन्दुस्तान बल्कि नेपाल के किसानों को भी फायदा हो, दोनों जगह नई नई इण्डस्ट्रीज़ लगे और दोनों मुल्कों की दोस्ती बनी रहे और बढ़ती रहे? क्या इस किस्म की कोई योजना भारत सरकार के पास है?

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह: जैसा मैंने हाउस में पहले बतलाया है—हमारा एक डेलीगेशन ता० 20 को नेपाल जा रहा है.....

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: आप उम में जा रहे हैं या नहीं? हम चाहते हैं कि आप के नेतृत्व में जाए।

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह: उमम टैकनीकल लोग, इन्जीनियर्स जा रहे हैं। हम बहा बहुत सारे मसलों पर बातचीत करने की कोशिश करेंगे और उम्मीद करते हैं कि उसके अच्छे परिणाम निकलेगे।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : पिछले दिनों एक मवाल के जवाब में मंत्री जी ने घोषणा की थी कि गप्ती नदी पर जो जलकुण्डी योजना है, वह कुछ नीचे बनाई जा रही है और इसके बारे में नेपाल सरकार ने सहमति प्रदान कर दी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—हमारे यहां नेपाल के प्रधान मंत्री अपनी टैकनीकल टीम के साथ आ रहे हैं तो क्या उन से उन मसलों पर भी जिन के बारे में एग्जीक्यूटिव हो गया है, उनके सब, इम्प्लीमेंटेशन और कन्स्ट्रक्शन शुरू करने के बारे में भी बातचीत करेंगे?

श्री केशर नाथ सिंह जैसा मैंने पहले बतलाया था कि जलकुण्डी योजना भारत सरकार की तरफ से थी, लेकिन नेपाल सरकार ने उन के ऊपर बालूबग बाध बनाने की योजना बना ली। अब इसके ज्वाइन्ट इन्वेस्टिगेशन के बारे में नेपाल सरकार को तैयार कर लिया गया है।

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY. I want to know whether it is a fact that there has been a favourable change in favour of the projects that were proposed by the Central Government in Nepal

श्री केशर नाथ सिंह दसोतिए ता छीम का आदान प्रदान गर इ आ है।

SHRI D N TIWARY This is a very vital question, five supplementaries should be allowed

MR SPEAKER I have already allowed five supplementaries Next question

Sharing of Ravi-Beas waters

*103 **SHRI B S BHAURA**
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH
GILL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the dispute over the sharing of Ravi-Beas waters between Punjab and Haryana has been settled, and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) (a) The question regarding sharing of waters available as a result of the Beas Project between Punjab and Haryana is presently under consideration of the Government

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI B S BHAURA Sir, the reply given by the hon Minister is very disappointing. When everything is given in the papers, why is he still telling us that it is under consideration. Kindly read what is said in the paper. I quote

"The Central Government, it is reliably learnt here has finally decided to divide seven out of 72 million acre feet of water which had fallen to the share of composite Punjab under the Government decision of 1967 on fifty-fifty basis between Haryana and Punjab. Delhi will receive 0.25 million acre feet of water under the same decision it was further learnt."

Everything is given here. What is the reason for his not telling this? why is he keeping the Parliament in dark in this regard?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH Why does the hon Member rely on the report of the press? I can assure this House that this is under consideration and a decision will be taken as early as possible. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER The hon Member has either to confirm or deny this.

SHRI B S BHAURA Is the Government aware of the fact that in regard to this decision there is a discontent in Punjab and the discontent is conveyed by the Punjab Government itself? If so what decision is he going to take on this?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH Sir, I shall only seek the protection of the Chair on this. This question has not been decided and it is still under the consideration of the Government. Therefore I am not in a position to say anything on this.

SHRI B S BHAURA My question is this whether Punjab Government has conveyed its discontent or not. That has not been answered by him.

MR SPEAKER Are you aware of the discontent of the Punjab Government?