

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: We are fully alive to the need for ensuring proper payment to the farmers. The Government has taken various steps in this regard. We have issued instructions to the commercial banks to ensure that on the advances that they give to the sugar mills the first charge should be payment for the sugar cane. That is why in UP this year the payments are current and that there are no arrears for the present year.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We seek your protection. This question was posed on a number of occasions and the Government does not give a straightforward answer at all. You should protect all of us from both sides of the House. This question was repeatedly asked and every time they say that they will take a proper decision at the proper time and that the matter will take time.

MR. SPEAKER: I can protect you only if you give me the decision making power.

श्री रामचन्द्र बिकल : अष्ट-क्ष जी, गन्ने वाले मूल्य पर मन्त्री जी का सन्तुषजनक उत्तर नहीं आया ; आप इस पर विवाद का मोक्ष दे क्योंकि य० पी० और बिहार मे काफी किसानों का बन्धना र्चनी मिलों पर है। इस लिये मेरा आप से अनुरोध है कि आप इस पर विवाद करायें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप नो पोइंट देर मन्त्री का तजुर्बा फर आये है यू० पी० मे । आप कृपया बैठिये ।

Slow progress of Irrigation in Maharashtra

*468. **SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much land in Maharashtra was irrigated by surface irrigation during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75;

(b) what are the reasons for the slow progress of irrigation in that State; and

(c) what attempts are made or are in contemplation to increase the flow irrigation in that State?

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) The area irrigated in Maharashtra by surface irrigation excluding areas by tanks serving less than 250 acres during 1972-73 and 1973-74 in the State Sector was as under—

1972-73	4.31 lakh ha.
1973-74	5.23 lakh ha.

Figures of area irrigated during 1974-75 are not yet available.

(a) The area irrigated in Maharashtra potential has been satisfactory because the state is investing large sums in irrigation sector. The State Government contemplates to double the outlay on irrigation in the 5th Five Year Plan. The irrigation potential that is planned to be created in the State by major and medium schemes during the 5th Plan is 5.15 lakh hectares compared to 2.78 lakh hectares developed in the Fourth Five Year Plan.

The Maharashtra Government have also set up Command Area Development Authorities for several major irrigation projects for accelerating utilisation of the irrigation potential created.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT. Before I put any supplementary I should like to have some clarification because there is some confusion in the figures. The statement says that the potential to be created in the 5th Plan is 5.15 lakh hectares while in the statement it is given that in 1973-74 alone 5.23 lakh hectares have already been irrigated. The statement further says that 2.73 lakh hectares have been irrigated in the

Fourth Plan but the statement in its earlier portion says that in 1972-73 alone 4.31 lakh hectares have been irrigated. Why is this confusion? Will he kindly clarify.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: Irrigation potential that is sought to be created in major and medium schemes during the Fifth Plan, it is anticipated, would be 5.15 lakh hectares compared to 2.78 lakh hectares developed in the last plan period.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: It says that this is 2.78 lakh hectares in the Fourth Plan. But in 1972-73 alone it is 4.31 lakhs of hectares.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: In the last plan period it was 2.78 lakh hectares and we propose that this will be 5.15 lakh hectares in Fifth Plan.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: In 1972-73 you have stated this is 4.31 lakh hectares.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: In the Fourth Plan, we said we created 2.78 lakh hectares. He may not agree with the figures but these are the figures, which I have got.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: In one year alone it is 4 lakhs and odd. But for the whole of the Fourth Plan it is only 2 lakhs, as you say. How could it be?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: He may not agree with the figures. But the figures which I have got says this. In the Fourth Plan we created 2.78 lakh hectares of irrigation potential and we propose this would be 5.15 lakh hectares in the Fifth Plan.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: He has not given the reply to my question. He is simply repeating the figures without trying to reconcile them. So I give up this clarification and now proceed to my question. My question is this. What attempts are made to increase the irrigation potential in the State by the

Central Government? How many irrigation schemes have been cleared by the Centre and how much of financial assistance has been given so far by the Centre and how much is also proposed to be given? This is what I have asked in part (c) of my question.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: Money is not provided by Central Government. The Central Government gives grants and loans.

It is the duty of the State Governments to manage the money from their own budget. They have to decide this. We can only see, when State Governments are in a difficult position some time, that we take such action as is necessary at that time. It is completely the responsibility of the State Governments to manage their own affairs.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: How much of assistance was given from the Central Government to the State Governments by way of loans?

MR. SPEAKER: It looks like a domestic quarrel.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: I want to know how much of subsidy has been given to them.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: At present we have no figures available. They can be given if a separate notice is given for it.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Sir, the question is: (c) what attempts are made or are in contemplation to increase the flow irrigation in that State? That is the question asked by me. So he ought to answer it without demanding a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: You will please look at the Chair also.

श्री टी० डी० कांबळे : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र में कितने श्री सिंचाई के साधन उपलब्ध हैं उन सब का उपयोग करने पर कमील नीचे के

कितनी कमीन सा सकती है ? उस का क्या परसेन्टेज होगा

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: If the entire potentiality that is created is utilised, then, we feel that we shall be able to reach 36 per cent of the total.

SHRI KRISHNARAO PATIL: The percentage given by the hon. Minister is not correct. Even the Karve Committee appointed by Maharashtra Government has given it as 25 per cent as per their report. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

बी टी. डी. कांबळे : किस प्रकार पर इन्होंने यह बताया है ?

श्री केशव भाव सिंह : मानव, व सदस्य ने जो पछा है कि कितना पोटेंशियल क्लिस्ट हुआ है उसका पूरा यूटिल इस्तेमाल हो जाए, तो कितना लोक, यह टोटल का एक-तिहाई होगा ।

कुछ मावनीय सदस्य : नहीं, नहीं ।

MR. SPEAKER: What is it that three Maharashtra Members are standing simultaneously? The Minister has given a very clear reply.

SHRI KRISHNARAO PATIL: Sir, in reply to this question the hon. Minister has given some figures. Does he mean to say that irrigation potential is satisfactory? This is what I would like to ask the hon. Minister. The percentage of irrigation potential as worked out by the Maharashtra Government comes to six as compared to the all-India average of 22 per cent. Does the hon. Minister like to claim this percentage (six per cent) as very satisfactory when the all-India average is only 22 per cent?

MR. SPEAKER: Unless all of you sit down, how can he reply?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: Sir, nobody is happy about the progress of irrigation in Maharashtra. But, I can

tell the hon. Member that the total money in Fifth Five Year Plan—all-India figures—is Rs. 2,401 crores and the Maharashtra Government is spending Rs. 375 crores. This is more than what is spent according to all-India average.

MR. SPEAKER: Now there is no debate. He has replied your question. All of you please sit down.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: I am thankful to you for having called me. I was trying to catch your eyes. Sir, the figures given by the hon. Minister are different. The question is regarding the surface irrigation. The statement shows only about the figures for medium and major irrigation. But, minor irrigation figures are not given. Minor irrigation gives quick results. I do not know whether any scheme has been sanctioned for the minor irrigation. No figures for the minor irrigation for the Fifth and Fourth Plans have been given by the hon. Minister.

I would like to know from him what is the position with regard to minor irrigation for the State of Maharashtra.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: Sir, the figures which have been supplied by me are in respect of medium and major projects. The number of minor irrigation schemes is more than the major and medium irrigation schemes in Maharashtra.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: In view of the fact that Maharashtra happens to be a deficit area and minor irrigation projects would be more useful, I would like to know how much subsidy would be available. Please tell us the total quantum of subsidy.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: There is no policy of the Government of India to give subsidies to the State Governments for minor irrigation.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: What is the quantity of water which is available and how much area is going to be covered in the Fifth Five Year Plan from the money which you are going

to supply to Maharashtra in respect of major, medium and minor irrigation schemes?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: Sir, in the Fifth Five Year Plan it is proposed to spend Rs. 232 crores in respect of continuing schemes; Rs. 119 crores for new schemes and Rs. 24 crores for research and investigation.

Development of National Park in Gujarat

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*469. **SHRI VEKARIA:**
SHRI D. P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in regard to development of National Park in Gunagarh in Gujarat State;

(b) the area earmarked; and

(c) the measure taken for the rehabilitation of the persons who live in that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The entire Gir forest measuring 1412 sq. km. has been declared as a Sanctuary. Of this, an area of 140.40 Sq. Km. is in the process of being constituted as a National Park. Preliminary Notification under Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 has been issued and a final Notification will follow on completion of Collector, Gunagarh's enquiry regarding rights etc. In the National Park no grazing or exploitation will be allowed.

(c) There are about 840 Maudhari (nomad graziers) families with about 17000 cattle heads lying in temporary settlements within the Gir Sanctuary area. So far 92 families have been shifted and by the end of the Vth Five Year Plan this work is expected to be completed. The State Government is giving 8 acres of land per family, residential accommodation etc. at the site where they are being rehabilitated.

SHRI VEKARIA: Sir, in regard to part (c) of my question, the Minister has replied that 92 families out of 840 families have been resettled. I would like to know, what are the reasons for the delay in the resettlement? There is another thing. During the last three years, not a single family has been resettled in this area. What are the reasons for not resettling these families at the earliest?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir, there are no difficulties about resettlement. Separate lands have been reserved by the Government of Gujarat for resettlement of these families. But, there is reluctance. This is natural. All of us are human beings and we can understand that. People are reluctant to migrate from one area to another. The Gujarat Government is trying to persuade the farmers, these graziers, to migrate from this area to other areas.

SHRI VEKARIA: Sir, the main intention of the Government to declare this sanctuary as the National Park was to save the wild life specially the lions. Sir, the population of lions is decreasing day by day. I would like to know, what steps Government proposes to take to save the wild life specially the lions in this area?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir the reason why the Wild Life Protection Act has been enacted by this august House was to give proper protection to the wild life including lions. It is true that there has been some decrease in the population of lions recently. In 1950, it was 200, in 1963 it was 285 and in 1968, it came down to 177. As a result of this sanctuary proposed, the population is expected to go up.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Problems of Gandak area

*470. **SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Indian Nation'