

recommendations of the committee would be useful to strengthen the Budni station.

Sprinkler method of Irrigation

*1596 SHRI ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have studied the advantages of the sprinkler method of irrigation in increasing agricultural production ;

(b) whether this method is being used at present any where in the country as an experiment ;

(c) if so, the places where this method has been introduced ; and

(d) the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(c) The sprinkler System of irrigation is being experimented at a number of places, some of them being :-

- (i) Soil and Water Management Pilot Project, Patiala, (Punjab).
- (ii) Soil & Water Management Pilot Project, Bellary (Mysore).
- (iii) Indo-German Project at Mandi (Himachal Pradesh).
- (iv) Govt. Estate, Guindy, Tamil Nadu.
- (v) Kudimja State Seed Farm, Tamil Nadu.
- (vi) J. N. Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpore.
- (vii) Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

(d) Preliminary trials on the efficacy of sprinkler irrigation *vis-a-vis* other common methods of irrigation—such as borderstrip, flooding, furrow etc, have shown that it is beneficial to use sprinkler where

- (a) the land is very slopy such as in sand dunes and where levelling it entails much expense.
- (b) the soils are very porous.

(c) frequent light applications are desired.

(d) maintenance of open channels is difficult or expensive.

(e) flooding methods cause water-logging.

(f) water is expensive or limited.

Some of the published data indicate that sprinkler system can give as much as 80% application efficiency. However, this would vary depending upon the situation of the site and the time of application of water. This system of irrigation would also minimise the drainage problem.

SHRI ESWARA REDDY : I have gone through the statement and I find that it is being experimented at seven places and is proving beneficial. May I know the economics of the experiment, how it is being experimented, whether sprinkler units are supplied to farmers when it is experimented outside Government farms, whether a subsidy is given and what is the reaction of farmers to this experiment ?

SHRI SHER SINGH : The whole scheme is in an experimental stage. There is only one place, Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, where this experiment was carried on for the last eight years. There the benefit-cost ratio comes to 3 5: 1. It means this has proved to be beneficial, seven places have been mentioned here. There are other places also where this experiment is being carried on. This experiment was started only last year. So, the results are not yet known.

SHRI ESWARA REDDY : In the statement of the hon. Minister I do not find the scheme which has been sponsored by the Rayalaseema Development Board and sanctioned by the Andhra Pradesh Government for experimentation of this method in Cuddapah district. May I know how the hon. Minister has missed this information ? I would like to have the factual information about it.

SHRI SHER SINGH : Some States have started it. I have some information about Haryana and Rajasthan. But about other places, I do not have any information about the results achieved. About Andhra Pradesh, I have no information whether the State has started some project of this type.

Tamil Nadu has started it, one is Guindy and the other at Kudimia State Seed Farm, as mentioned in the statement. I do not know about Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : The hon. Minister said that this particular method has been used and the benefit-cost ratio is 3.5 : 1. Just for comparative reasons, I want to know this. There is the other method, gravitational method of irrigation. How does it compare with that ? Secondly, I want to know whether the information at the command of the Ministry is correct that in Coorg there are at least 100 plantations where this method of irrigation has already been used on commercial basis ? Is it necessary to experiment with this method which he has applied not on irrigation but on farmers ? I would like to have a comparative position about it.

SHRI SHER SINGH : There is no doubt about it that sprinkler method is better and more efficient. But what we are experimenting upon is to study economics of it, whether it is possible for a small farmer to invest the money that is needed for it. All that has to be studied as to whether it will be useful for all sorts of places, in desert areas, in dry areas, in lands which are uneven. It is very necessary to study all this, and also whether in flat areas it will be more economical in the long run and whether money invested will be found out by the small farmer. All these experiments are being carried on simply to know the economics of this proposition in various types of areas. We have results only about one district, that is, Mandi. About other areas, we are still carrying on the experiment and we are trying to study the economics of it.

श्री नाथूराम अहिरवार : श्रीमन्, मध्य-प्रदेश में तीन चौथाई भूमि अर्शित है तो क्या यह प्रयोग मध्यप्रदेश में किया गया है, यदि हां, तो उस प्रयोग का क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

श्री शेर सिंह : मध्यप्रदेश में जबलपुर विश्वविद्यालय में इसके ऊपर अभी प्रयोग हो रहा है, अभी उसका परिणाम हमारे पास नहीं आया है।

SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : In view of the fact that the experiment is successful and economical, may I know whether there is any proposal with the Government to extend this facility to small farmers and marginal farmers ?

SHRI SHER SINGH : After we get the results of this experiment in various areas, and some universities are also carrying on the experiment, we will certainly expand it.

SHRI K. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : In the Nagarjunsagar area where the water is flowing through canals, in the high level area they are not in a position to get the water. Why is this sprinkler method not being adopted there ? This will benefit a large part of the area. Why should this method not be introduced in the Nagarjuna Sagar project area ?

SHRI SHER SINGH : I do not have the information about the Nagarjuna Sagar project. It is for the State Government to see that if they can do it, it will be beneficial. We are carrying on experiments to show the economics of the proposition and that they are to the benefit of the farmers. After these experiments are carried out and the information is collected, I think the State Governments will make use of it.

द्रुत कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत अशिक्षित बेरोजगारों के लिए रोजगार की व्यवस्था

*1597. श्री रणबहादुर सिंह : क्या कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ग्राम्य रोजगार सम्बन्धी द्रुत कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत राज्य सरकारों को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के अशिक्षित व्यक्तियों के स्थान पर शिक्षित बेरोजगारों को रोजगार देने के लिए योजनायें तैयार करने तथा उन्हें क्रियान्वित करने का विकल्प दिया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन किन राज्यों ने इस सम्बन्ध में अपनी योजनाएं केंद्र को भेजी हैं ;

(ग) उनकी विशेषताएं क्या हैं ; और