

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** As far as North-East Monsoon is concerned, there has been an erratic behaviour; the rains have not been normal in Tamil Nadu. We are aware of that; we are watching the situation. I do not think we should take a very alarming or gloomy view of things. If it comes to that, we shall try to extend the necessary help to Tamil Nadu.

**SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** May I point out to the hon. Minister that, already the Chief Minister in the Assembly has stated that, as a result of the failure of the Monsoon, there is a severe drought in Tamil Nadu and the estimated crop is less than what usually is. It is in that context that I have asked this question. I want to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Centre, whether the Tamil Nadu Government has appealed to the Centre for relief and if so, what are Government's reaction to it.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** The hon. lady Member knows much better than I that large areas of Tamil Nadu are irrigated areas. Therefore, even if there is a setback, it should not be so much and probably the Tamil Nadu Government and the Government of India would be in a position to face the situation in cooperation with each other.

**SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** I know that some areas are irrigated areas, but there are large areas which are not irrigated. The Tamil Nadu Assembly has been seized of this subject for the last one week; it is appearing in the press. The Chief Minister has appealed to the Centre. What is the reply that he is giving? I am well aware of the position there.

**MR. SPEAKER:** This is Question Hour, not a debate.

Mr. Kiruttinan.

**SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN:** During the last year and the year before last, when there was surplus in Tamil Nadu, it was able to give so much of

paddy and rice to the Central Pool as well as to the other State Governments as the Centre wanted. Now there is a serious shortage of rice and paddy and other foodgrains there. May I know whether the State Government has brought to the notice of the Central Government the problems and has approached them for any help and if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India to it?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** The State Government is in touch with us very much on this issue. They have been bringing to our notice the problems of Tamil Nadu as a result of the erratic behaviour of the North-East Monsoon.

**SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI:** The State Government has estimated a shortage of eight lakh tonnes of rice in Tamil Nadu. As the Tamil Nadu Government has stated in the Assembly and in the press, there is a drought situation prevailing in all the districts in spite of the irrigation facilities provided in Tamil Nadu. May I know whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Central Government for help for relief work to the tune of Rs. 5 crores and if so, what is the reaction of the Government to it?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** I seek your protection, Sir, because the main question relates to procurement of paddy in Tamil Nadu and I am being asked about drought relief.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The next Question.

#### Rajasthan Canal Project

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\*479. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY:**

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:**

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

(a) whether Government propose to revise the second phase of the Rajasthan Canal Project; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

#### Statement

(a) and (b). The National Commission on Agriculture in their Interim Report on Desert Development have proposed recasting of the Stage—II of Rajasthan Canal Project to exclude unsuitable areas, bring more areas under lift irrigation and alter cropping pattern for more fodder crops with a view to immunising the desert areas and to protect maximum number of people against the ravages of recurring droughts. The State Government is thinking of constituting a study team for undertaking technical and economic surveys of the proposals.

**SHRI R. S. PANDEY:** The statement of the hon. Minister states:

"The National Commission on Agriculture in their interim Report on Desert Development have proposed recasting of the Stage—II of Rajasthan Canal Project to exclude unsuitable areas...."

I would like that the statement had given more details as to how much area is going to be covered at the Stage—II, what the interim report says, etc. Such comprehensive details are required, in the absence of which, it is very difficult for us to put questions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has taken note of what you have said...

**SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH:**...and have given maximum information available. The project comprises of two Stages. I feel that the first stage consists of the construction of a feeder canal upto 215 km and the Rajasthan Main Canal is of 195 km and the Second Stage comprises of 273 km.

Now, there is a proposal by the National Commission on Agriculture for recasting the Stage—II of the project. The Centre has approached the State Government and a meeting was held in Jaipur and they decided to recast it after getting certain more data and investigation. For that, the Centre has already approached them for setting up a committee. The Rajasthan Government is, therefore, setting up a committee to go into the details to see whether recasting is possible or not.

**SHRI R. S. PANDEY:** The hon. Minister said that the National Commission on Agriculture has made an interim report suggesting recasting of the Second Stage and for that, they are going to meet in Jaipur and that a committee will be appointed and that the report will be placed later on. I would like to know whether any time schedule has been fixed for all these stages.

**SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH:** Normally, there is no time schedule fixed. But, as I have already said, it should not go beyond a year.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri Ram Gopal Reddy.

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** I do not want to put any question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is it out of frustration or satisfaction?

**श्री राम गंवर :** राजस्थान नहर के दूसरे चरण के बारे में बताया है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पाचवी योजना में क्या आप ने दूसरे चरण की रकम का प्राविधान नहीं किया है ?

**श्री केदार नाथ सिंह :** उसको हमने शामिल किया है पाचवर्षीय योजना में ।

**SHRI S. A. KEDAR:** The Rajasthan Canal Project was expected to have been completed many years ago and we have been hearing it for the last so many years. We were also assured that once it was completed, Rajasthan

would become the granary of India. Now, in view of the food shortage in the country, would it not be advisable that some quick action is taken to see that the work is taken up on a war footing and the canal completed early?

**SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH:** We are aware of the difficulties and we have, therefore, allocated more funds this year in the coming Plan for this canal.

**DR. MAHIPATRAY MEHTA:** According to the original plan, this canal was proposed to be extended to the Port of Kandla to give an opening to the sea for the States of Rajasthan and Punjab as also for defence purposes. Now, I would like to know whether they are going to stick to the original plan or are they going to revise it?

**SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH:** As I had explained earlier, recasting is already in process and it depends on the availability of water—how much water will be available for this canal. Therefore, at this stage, it cannot be said whether it shall be possible to connect it with the sea.  
(Interruptions).

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. Kindly keep sitting.

Now, we move on to the next question.

#### Raids on Dealers in Essential Commodities in Delhi

\*482. **SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enforcement staff of Delhi Administration had recently raided the premises of nearly 184 licenced dealers in essential commodities such as Fair Price Shop owners, wheat licences and bread dealers in Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken against them?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):** (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

As per information made available by the Delhi Administration, 184 licences/dealers were checked for detecting hoarding, black-marketing etc. during the period from 1.11.1974 to 15.11.1974. Out of these irregularities were detected in 150 cases. Departmental action have been taken in 138 cases and 9 cases have been registered under Defence of India Rules and 3 under Essential Commodities Act 1955.

श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम : मंत्री महोदय ने उतनी ही जानकारी दी है जितना मेरे प्रश्न में है। उन्होंने भी स्टेटमेंट में यह कहा है कि 184 लाइसेंसों का इन्स्पेक्शन किया गया है जोकि मेरे प्रश्न में भी है। कुछ अधिक जानकारी मंत्री महोदय ने नहीं दी है। जिस तरह से ये लाइसेंस होल्डर या डीलर जनसाधारण के जीवन के साथ बिनाबाध कर रहे हैं उससे क्या इन बात का पता नहीं चलता है कि इन फोर्समेंट डिपार्टमेंट के लोग इनके साथ मिले हुए हैं और चुगी बाजारों पर माल पैसे ले कर जाने दिया जाता है, पैसे ले करके दोषी व्यक्तियों को छोड़ दिया जाता है। क्या मंत्री महोदय की जानकारी में यह बात नहीं है? क्या मंत्री महोदय को इसकी जानकारी भी नहीं है कि यूथ वामपंथ के कार्यकर्तियों ने पहाड़गञ्ज के एक डीलर के महा भ्रमण किया, छापामारों की बात कही, तभी एनफोर्समेंट डिपार्टमेंट के लोगों ने उस डीलर को पकड़ा, उसके खिलाफ एक्शन लिया। मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि एनफोर्समेंट डिपार्टमेंट और चुगी बाजारों के उन कार्यचारियों के खिलाफ क्या एक्शन ले रहे हैं जोकि डीलरों के साथ मिले हुए हैं?