

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 29, 1978/Chaitra 8, 1900
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sixth Five Year Plan

*490. SHRI DHARMA VIR VASISTH : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the size, rate of growth visualised, outlay in public sector power generation, irrigation and agriculture, in the proposed Sixth Five Year Plan as emerging after discussions at the various levels ;

(b) whether the National Development Council discussions revealed unanimity on the main objectives of the Plan; if so, in what respects; and

(c) by what date the draft Plan would be finally ready ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) The required details are as follows :
Total Plan Outlay Rs. 116240 crores
Rate of growth . 4.7 per cent per annum

Public sector outlay Rs. 69380 crores
of which

Power Generation Rs. 15750 crores

Irrigation & Flood control Rs. 9650 crores

Agriculture and allied activities Rs. 8600 crores

(b) The National Development Council approved the main objectives of the Plan, viz., removal of unemployment, reduction in poverty and inequalities and continued progress towards self-reliance and the corresponding increased allocations for agriculture, rural development, irrigation, flood control and power and village and small industries

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(c) The draft plan is expected to be finalised after further discussions with the State Governments, and in the light of the report of the Seventh Finance Commission which is expected to be submitted towards the end of the current year ?

श्री धर्मवीर वशिष्ठ : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगला प्लान (6टां प्लान) अगले महीने से शुरू होने वाला है और जैसा प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में बताया है कि फाइनेंस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद और नेशनल डेवलपमेंट कौन्सिल के साथ एक दफा और चर्चा होने के बाद, उम्मीद है कि इस साल के आखिर तक प्लान को फाइनेलाइज किया जा सकेगा। मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ—प्लान की जल्दी फाइनेलाइज करने के लिये क्या कोई तीव्र कार्यवाही की जा रही है तथा नेशनल डेवलपमेंट कौन्सिल में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के जो प्रतिनिधि आये थे, उन के सम्बन्ध में प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि उन के साथ मोटे-मोटे मुद्दों पर सहमति हो गई है, तो क्या ऐसे भी कोई मुद्दे हैं जिन पर अभी सहमति नहीं हो पाई है, जिस की वजह से आप दूसरी दफा नेशनल डेवलपमेंट कौन्सिल की मीटिंग रख रहे हैं ?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : अगले साल में जो शुरू होने वाला है, वह प्लान तो मंजूर हो गया है, सब स्टेटों ने मान लिया है, बाकी जो रहता है, उस के लिये समय नहीं था। मगर सबने उसको देखा है और सामान्य तौर से जो एप्रूवल दी है, बाकी का फाइनेंस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट अक्टूबर-नवम्बर में आने के बाद ही पूरा हो सकेगा।

श्री धर्मवीर वशिष्ठ : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इंडिया

इंजीनियरिंग ट्रेड फ़ैक्टर को इनफ़्लैगुरेट करते समय 1 फरवरी, 1978 को यह कहा था :

"What the country was trying to do was to place man in the centre of things by relating all industrial activities to his needs."

क्या प्रधानमंत्री जी कृपया इस का स्पष्टीकरण करेंगे खास तौर से इस बात को पेशे-नज़र रखते हुए कि प्लानिंग ग्राफ़ सोशल सर्विसेज के बारे में डा० लाकड़ावाला ने यह कहा है कि पहली योजना में सोशल सर्विसेज का एक्सपेंडीचर टोटल एक्सपेंडीचर की रेशों में 21 पर सेन्ट था, दूसरी, तीसरी और चौथी योजना में 15.5 पर सेन्ट था और पांचवी योजना में 13.2 पर सेन्ट था ।

MR SPEAKER : This is known to everybody; please come to the question.

श्री धर्मवीर वशिष्ठ : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि एक आदमी को सेन्टर में रखने के लिए इस छठे प्लान में, जो रोलिंग प्लान होगा, सोशल सर्विसेज के लिए क्या रखा गया है ?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : सारे प्लान के बारे में तो तभी कह सकते हैं जबकि पूरा एप्रूवल मिल जाएगा मगर यह जो सारा प्लान है, यह मनुष्य को ध्यान में रख कर ही बनाया गया है ।

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : May I know from the Prime Minister whether the policy with regard to stabilising the prices of agricultural commodities was discussed in the National Development Council ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : Yes.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : I would like to have a little clarification regarding the objectives which the Prime Minister stated. One of the objectives was that there will be further movement towards self-reliance. The amount of foreign aid given in the Plan according to the published report is not less than the previous Plans. Does the Prime Minister visualise termination of foreign aid within a specific period ? Secondly, in the Plan the amount of deficit financing allowed is Rs. 2000 crores, whereas in the first year

of the Plan itself, the budget presented now, already Rs 1050 crores have been allowed for. Will there be any alteration in the amount of deficit financing that will be allowed in the Fifth Plan in view of the fact that there is such a huge deficit in the first year itself ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : It is provided but it does not mean that there is going to be deficit financing. I have already said that there will not be deficit financing and we are trying to see that it does not happen. We are considering two or three other sources. If foreign aid is not less than the previous years, the hon. Member will see that the Plan is much larger now. Therefore, the percentage is much less and that is how it will gradually sink. There is no question of putting any limit. We are working in such a manner that whether it comes or does not come, it does not matter to us.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know from the Prime Minister whether it is not a fact that the National Development Council in the last meeting decided to set up a Committee primarily to review the Centre-State fiscal relations, to review the Gadgil formula governing the allocations of Centre's plan assistance among the States and finally to review the scope of the Central-sponsored schemes in the Plan? May I know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the said Committee has already been appointed and whether that committee would also be requested to suggest necessary constitutional amendments for the readjustment of the Centre-State relations without impairing the federal set up and the national unity of the country ?

May I also further know whether the suggestion of the West Bengal government with regard to the Commission having a direct dialogue with the State Governments in the matter of finalisation of the draft document is going to be accepted by the Government ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : I do not quite follow what the hon. Member wants. If he means that the state Government should have a direct dialogue with the Commission, they are having it already. Their plans are discussed with the State Governments and the other plan is discussed with them separately. Therefore, there is no question of not consulting them at all. They are consulted fully in this matter.

Then, with regard to the other question to which he has referred, the Committee

which will be examining the Gadgil formula, has nothing to do with constitutional amendments. They are not authorised to do that. That committee will be a committee of practically all the Chief Ministers and the Deputy Chairman. They will go into the formula and suggest what needs to be done?

SHRI HITENDRA DESAI : May we have some idea about the resource mobilisation and how much of it will be borne by the centre ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : The hon. Member will have an idea when the whole thing is finalised.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA—*rose*

MR SPEAKER : Question No. 491—Shri Mavalankar.

Aid from the Centre to States for Coastal Highways.

*491. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR. Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give Central assistance to such of the State Governments which are willing to construct the coastal highways in their territories;

(b) if so, when and how;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat have approached the Central Government for financial assistance in the matter; and

(e) if so, Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) There is no scheme as such for providing financial assistance specifically for development of coastal highways in the State road system.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is a scheme for providing Central assistance for the State Roads of inter-State or economic importance and against the Central Road Fund. Proposals under this scheme are sanctioned keeping in view availability of resources, their *inter se* priority and needs of all the States.

(d) and (e). On the basis of proposals received from the Government of Gujarat from time to time works of a total cost of Rs. 5.9 crores have been approved so far for development pertaining to the Gujarat Coastal Highway under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads of inter-State or economic importance and from the Central Road Fund.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : As the House knows, Gujarat is a principal maritime State in the country with as many as 39 minor and intermediate ports and one major port along its coastline. Now the Minister has given a long answer and one gets the impression that he is giving a lot of help to the State. But he is only assisting them with, what is already, the money of the State, *i.e.* the Central Road Fund which is only made up of States' shares. So, there is no central assistance given to the State governments.

Any way, my question is : Gujarat has a vast coastline and there is no through coastal highway and the State government has already spent a part of its own limited resources on its construction and it is estimated to cost Rs. 18 crores whereas the loan—not assistance—given is only Rs. 1.5 crores. In view of all this, may I know whether the government propose to either extend additional loans or devise plans to give assistance to some of those States which are part of the Indian Union and which have a coastal boundary and, therefore, coastal highways are needed there ? And why is not the government taking this view in the matter and helping some of the States like the Gujarat State because the State's resources are very limited and unless the Central Government comes forward how are these coastal highways to be constructed ?

SHRI CHAND RAM : Under the Constitution of India, national highways are the responsibility of the Central Government and so far as the State Highways are concerned, we give only assistance in the form of loans and sometimes in the form of grants and whatever central grants under the Central Road Fund are given, we allocate them according to the *inter se* priority and also according to the needs of the State.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : I am glad that he has referred to national highways. Therefore, my second question is based on that precisely.

Is it a fact that the government of Gujarat has represented repeatedly to the Centre for declaring a number of its State highways as national highways, particularly, the coastal highway running