

able to do it straightaway now. I would have to think over the matter, consult my senior colleagues and see whether something can be done in that direction.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In view of what the hon. member from Maharashtra has said and the minister's reply, I have to say that the minister having been a civil servant for more than 3 decades, is capable of taking an objective view and I, therefore, ask him whether it would be possible to determine the level of the Nagarjunasagar project in harmony with the rights of the States concerned.

Dr. K. L. Rao: The water level is not going to be raised by the gates, because the designed water level will be reached irrespective of the gates. If the gate is not there, the water will go down to the sea. If the gate is there, it cannot hold back all the water, but a portion of it can be held back. The only question we are examining is whether the 264 TMC that has been allotted for the first phase of Nagarjunasagar requires the installation of gates or not. That is the question we are examining first, and whether the gates are to be installed or not will depend on that.

Shri Chengalraya Naidu: May I know what is the storage capacity of water sanctioned for Maharashtra and whether they have exceeded the storage limit or not? Secondly, about Nagarjunasagar it was said that they have not yet sanctioned the provision of gates. As an engineer, does he think that it is fit not to provide gates and if gates are not provided, the entire project may be washed away when the flood comes?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think the project will be washed away if there are no gates.

Dr. K. L. Rao: No, Sir; it will not be washed away. About the first part of his question, out of 400 TMC allotted, the projects sanctioned so far

for Maharashtra are 367 TMC. They have reached the allotted amount very nearly.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the absolutely paramount top priority and urgency of food production being increased, which Nagarjunasagar dam, if the facilities for it are heightened to the maximum extent, can make a large contribution to, may I know why these footling little matters brought up by certain State Governments are being permitted by the Central Government to impede the work and why the minister is taking a kind of apologetic attitude, in regard to expediting the whole process of utilising the Nagarjunasagar dam with the maximum height and facilities to help in the production of foodgrains as a top priority matter?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is not only food production; we have got to maintain a smooth atmosphere in the country. We are not increasing the height. It is most important for us to remember that by putting gates, we are not increasing the height of the water, but the water that is going down can be stored in order to facilitate the utilisation of the 264 TMC. That is under consideration.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Annuity Policies of Life Insurance Corporation

*1116. **Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:**
Shri Umanath:
Shri B. K. Modak:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:
Shri Bhagaban Das:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether through the process of surrenders of immediate annuity policies of the Life Insurance Corporation in foreign countries, currencies are being taken outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any independent body to audit and check the Life

Insurance Corporation's business and administrative policy and its enforcement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant):

(a) No, Sir. Immediate Life Annuity policy is not eligible for surrender.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Accounts of the Corporation are audited by Chartered Accountants who are appointed by the Corporation with previous approval of Central Government. The report of the auditors is laid before both the Houses of Parliament. The report of the actuaries into the financial condition of the business of the Corporation including the valuation of the liabilities of the Corporation is also laid on the Tables of both Houses of Parliament.

The Life Insurance Corporation of India is also subject to the statutory control of the Controller of Insurance by virtue of various provisions of the Insurance Act having been made applicable to the Corporation.

Drilling in off-shore areas

*1117. **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**

Shri A. Sreedharan:

Shri Nihal Singh:

Shri Sheopujan Shastri:

Shri J. B. Singh:

Shri R. Barua:

Shri M. Sudarsanam:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drilling operations in the off-shore areas for petroleum have been successful;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) the expenditure so far incurred on the project; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the current year?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). It is presumed that the question refers

to the drilling operations being carried in the Persian Gulf by the O.N.G.C. in partnership with others. If so, the information asked for cannot be divulged at this stage in terms of the Partnership Agreement between the O.N.G.C. and the other parties.

(c) About Rs. 11 crores.

(d) Rs. 3.05 crores.

Subsidised Industrial Houses

*1118. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**

Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers who are keeping subsidised industrial houses in Delhi are being evicted simply because their wage limit has now crossed Rs. 600 p.m.;

(b) if so, the number of such workers and whether it is also a fact that the wage limit from Rs. 350 to 500 was raised to meet the requirements of the Factories Act; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to stop these evictions?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Jaganath Rao):

(a) Yes. All workers who have been allotted houses built under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme have to vacate the houses on crossing the wage limit of Rs. 500 p.m.

(b) Three. It is not correct that the wage limit was raised from Rs. 350 to Rs. 500 to meet the requirements of the Factories Act. This was done to enable the workers who cross the wage limit of Rs. 350 per mensem, to retain the houses till they reach the wage limit of Rs 500 per mensem.

(c) No action is proposed to be taken, because after crossing the wage limit of Rs. 500 per mensem, the worker does not remain eligible to retain the house under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme.