

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, June 27, 1967/Asadha 6,
1889 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Artificial Rain in Bihar

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*751. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has directed the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi to work out the feasibility of introducing artificial rain on a large scale in Bihar; and

(b) if so, how far the scheme has progressed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Ghinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Artificial Rain

*761. Shri Rane:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Parthasarathy:
Shri Atam Das:
Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of U.S.A. have offered technical and

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monetary help for Artificial Rain Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have considered it and discussed with the scientists and agricultural experts in the country; and

(d) how much area (cropped area) the project, if accepted and implemented, will cover annually and what will be the estimated annual expenditure on the project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Ghinde): (a) U.S. Aid have offered equipment and experts. No monetary help has been offered.

(b) As the negotiations are in progress, details are yet to be worked out.

(c) Yes Sir. The Advisory Committee on Rain and Cloud Physics of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, which is the body responsible for scientific experimentation in this field has been examining this project. Agricultural experts have also been consulted.

(d) These details are yet to be worked out.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पहले तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन सवालों का जवाब एग््रीकल्चर मिनिस্ট्री को बजाये साइंटिफिक रिसर्च की मिनिस्ट्री को देना चाहिये। एग््रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री वाले क्या जानते हैं? वे तो नहीं हैं।

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह परीक्षण कहीं भी कामयाब नहीं हो सका है—अमरीका जैसे देश में कामयाब नहीं हो

सका है, जो मोस्ट एडवांस्ड कंट्रीज में मिला जाता है—, तो फिर बिहार जैसे सूखे स्थान पर इस एक्सपेरिमेंट से क्या लाभ होगा। अगर इस काम पर लाखों रुपये खर्च करने के बजये बिहार में नहरें और नालियां पक्की बनवाई जायें, तो वे रुपये भी बच सकते हैं और बिहार की तरक्की भी हो सकती है।

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I am not prepared to accept the position that no progress has been made. In the countries where the experimentation has been carried on in artificial rain making, as USA and Australia, considerable progress has been made. Our scientists also feel that this is a field where we should really try hard so that if it succeeds it may be possible to meet the situation created by failure of rain.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : यह जान क्लियर नहीं हुई है कि जब इस काम के लिये नेशनल फिजिकल लैबोरेटरी से काम नहीं लिया जा रहा है तो फिर कौन सी अग्रीनाइंडेशन यह काम कर रही है और इस स्कीम पर कितना खर्च होगा।

Shri Annasahib Shinde: The Rain and Cloud Physics Centre is the organisation. It was so far working under the CSIR. Since 1st April 1967, the work has been transferred to the India Meteorological Department. Of course, the Centre works under the guidance of the advisory committee on rain and cloud physics appointed by the CSIR. As far as other details are concerned, since it comes under aviation, I am not able to give details about the budget provision etc.

श्री स० चं० लक्ष्मण : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कृत्रिम वर्षा के सम्बन्ध में काम केवल राष्ट्रीय भौतिक प्रयोगशाला, नई दिल्ली में ही क्यों किया जा रहा है और अन्य राज्यों में यह काम क्यों नहीं किया जा रहा है।

श्री गणनासहिब शिन्दे : मैं माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न समझ नहीं पाया हूँ। अगर वह हमकी दोहरा दें, तो अच्छा होगा।

Shri S. C. Samanta: I wanted to ask whether experiments were going on only in the National Physical Laboratory, Delhi and it was not done in other States also because of the climatic conditions existing there.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: The experiments were not carried on in a particular laboratory; they are to be carried on in the field. I have no data as to where these experiments are carried on. My information is that these experiments have been going on for the last decade and the results on the basis of rainfall obtained there measured through rain gauges have shown an increase in precipitation as a result of these experiments.

Shri Rane: In which other countries have these experiments at artificial rain making succeeded?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: As I have already pointed, mainly the USA and Australia are the other countries where these experiments have been carried on and considerable progress made.

Shrimati Sushila Rohtagi: Has the National Physical Laboratory carried out any experiment in artificial rain making, and if so, may I know whether its findings disclose that this experiment can be carried out successfully in our climate? Or, is there a probability that it can be an experiment perilous?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: As I have explained in reply to the second part of the second question, we are having negotiations with USA Aid officials, but the scientists in India and USA hold different views on the programme. It is still in the process of discussion. If some agreement is arrived at, some specific programme might be worked out.

श्री सरजू वाघबेब : सभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि अमेरिका में कृत्रिम वर्षा के सिलसिले में जो प्रयोग हो रहे हैं, उनमें काशी उपमण्डल मिली है। मैं यह जानना

चाहता हूँ कि क्या भारत में भी किसी क्षेत्र में ऐसा प्रयोग किया गया है या नहीं; अगर किया गया है, तो किन किन क्षेत्रों में किया गया है और उस पर क्या खर्चा हुआ है।

Shri Anasahib Shinde: As I have said, this experiment has been carried out and also recently in Bihar and some parts of U.P., but the favourable season for carrying out this experiment is the rainy season, but last year we carried out in severe drought conditions in Bihar because Bihar was in very much difficulty in regard to drinking water.

Shri Rang: During the rainy season?

Shri Anasahib Shinde: Sometimes the clouds are there. So, it adds to precipitation. Suppose it is 25" rain, it becomes 30 or 35". It helps to save the crops. But this year, the experiment was carried out in February-March, and it was not a favourable season. So far, we have not got all the details of the assessment of the experiment carried out.

Shri Krishna Kumar Chatterjee: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture state as to the nature of success achieved by the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, towards creating artificial rain sufficiently in profuse quantities so as to be used for irrigation purposes in drought-affected areas? Will the Minister seriously take up the question of creating artificial rain as a commercial proposition to enable a scheme of this nature to form the basis of a national plan to improve agriculture?

Shri Anasahib Shinde: It would be our endeavour in this direction, but it would be too early at this stage to say whether it would be possible on a commercial scale.

श्री किशु बन्धु झा : क्या मंत्री महोदय को इस बात का पता है कि आस्ट्रेलिया में आर्टिफिशियल रेन, कृत्रिम वर्षा, कराने में काफ़ी कामयाबी हुई है और पिछले साल

विक्टोरिया राज्य में दस हजार स्वयंसेवक आइसब्लॉक में बादल बोये गये थे, जिससे एक इंच ज्यादा वर्षा हुई—जिस क्षेत्र में बादल नहीं बोये गये थे, उस के मुकाबले में 2.4 परसेंट ज्यादा वर्षा हुई; यदि हाँ, तो क्या नई दिल्ली की नेशनल फिजिकल लैबोरेटरी ने आस्ट्रेलिया के वैज्ञानिकों से उनके अनुभव से लाभ उठाने के लिये इस बारे में सम्पर्क स्थापित किया है या नहीं? अगर किया है, तो वह इस देश में कृत्रिम वर्षा कराने की दिशा में कहां तक आगे बढ़ी है?

Shri Anasahib Shinde: I think the hon. member's information about Australia is broadly right, but we are trying to take advantage of the various experiments carried on in the world in various countries, and perhaps in order to draw our plans in future in this field the experience of other countries would be available to us.

Shri Tulshidas Jadhav: What is the difference between the expenditure made by this experiment and by normal irrigation?

Shri Anasahib Shinde: I am not able to say.

Shri Hem Barua: After the second world war considerable experiments in making artificial rain are made in USA and Australia by seeding the clouds, by spraying dry ice in the cloud and all that. Because of this famine in Bihar caused by drought conditions, the brains of children, the number of which might be between four and six million, are permanently damaged due to malnutrition. In view of all these things may I know whether Government have tried to establish any contact with the scientists of Australia and the United States who have made experiments in this particular field so as to help our starving people against drought conditions in Bihar particularly?

Shri Anasahib Shinde: If we succeed in this experiment, it will be a great relief to us because it will help

us to save crops. We are having at the moment negotiations with the United States scientists as I mentioned earlier.

Shri Hem Barua: What about Australia?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: We shall take advantage of all the scientists coming from any part of the world.

Shrimati Lakshmi Kantamma: We look to other countries but we neglect the fund of science that we have in our own country in the form of Vedas. Shri Rajagopalachari himself said once that through yagnas you can invoke gods and get rains. Even in Bhagvad Gita, it is said like that.

Mr. Speaker: We are not discussing Bhagvad Gita now.

Shrimati Lakshmi Kantamma: I just wanted to know from the Minister whether there is any encouragement to that aspect of science also.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: We are relying on our scientists also.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister cannot answer questions on Bhagvad Gita.

Shri Tenneti Viswanatham: Before spending money on these fancies are Government satisfied that full utilisation of the waters available in the rivers is being made and if so will they direct their attention towards that objective rather than these fancies?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I do not think this comes in the way of undertaking minor or major irrigation schemes.

Shri Brajbhakar Suptakar: May I know whether there is any research project whereby all the rains would be kept in an atmospheric reservoir and drawn upon as and when necessary?

Mr. Speaker: I think we better go to the next question; the seriousness is gone.

सूखा-मत्त क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई

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* 752. श्री क० ना० तिबारी :

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह :

श्री क० सि० मधुकर :

श्री कामेश्वर सिंह :

श्री भीबरन :

श्री निहाल सिंह :

श्री शिवपूजन शास्त्री :

श्री जि० ब० सिंह :

श्री बेनी शंकर शर्मा :

श्री प्रोफ़ेसर लाल बेरवा :

क्या खाद्य तथा वृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार के सूखा-ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई की सुविधायें देने के लिये क्या-क्या तात्कालिक प्रवन्ध किये गये हैं तथा इस कार्य के लिये बिहार सरकार को कितनी वित्तीय सहायता दी गई है; और

(ख) उनके परिणामस्वरूप कितने एकड़ भूमि में सिंचाई होने की सम्भावना है ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-795/67].

श्री क० ना० तिबारी : यह जो स्टेटमेंट टेबल पर रखा गया है इसमें पैरा 1 में दिया गया है :

"Besides foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 43 lakhs was released to the State for import of four medium percussion rigs, one heavy direct rotary rig, three medium direct rotary rigs and five medium duty reverse circulation rigs."

तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने रिस्क के लिये फॉरेन एक्सचेंज रिटर्न दिया