

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Is it not a fact that a large number of processes and inventions developed by various CSIR laboratories all over the country have remained at the bench level and because of lack of funds these processes could not be developed to the highest skill and given to the entrepreneurs? NRDC is the clearing House for these laboratories.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : I think that some processes invented by the CSIR could not be actually used, but the utilization rate of CSIR technology is much higher than for example technologies in the British Technology Group. Forty per cent of the CSIR technologies are actually being used, while the utilization of such technologies in Britain is only 14.5 per cent. Therefore, there is a high rate of utilization of know how and processes devised by CSIR by our industry.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : This is an era of technology revolution and most of the advanced countries in order to keep pace with the advancement in technology have started a technology nursery in which they develop, indigenise and use their technology for the development of the country. Will our hon. Minister think to start such a technology nursery also?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : I do not exactly know the concept of the technology nursery, but all our technology laboratories are nurseries of technology, in fact, where technology is born as well as nurtured. We also have the concept of technology parks where advanced technology from abroad is introduced, developed and popularised.

Forest clearance for Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canals

*328. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Union Government for expeditious clearance of

forest lands required for Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canals excavation in Khammam and Krishna districts;

(b) whether an officer deputed from the Forest Research Institute, Bangalore inspected the forest lands involved and if so, what was his report; and

(c) the likely date by which the clearance will be given?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An officer from the Sandal Research Centre, Bangalore, who inspected the forest land to be diverted for Nagarjuna Sagar left canals has recommended clearance of the proposal.

(c) Some essential information is still awaited from the State Government. Final decision can be taken only after receipt of the lacking data.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : I am very happy with the answer to part (b) of the question, where it is very clearly stated that the officer who was deputed to examine the forest land has recommended for clearance of the proposal because practically there are no trees.

But I am very unhappy with the answer to part (c) of the question. The same rituals cannot be uttered in a marriage function as well as in the obsequious functions connected with death. In fact this project was started in 1956 and when our late Prime Minister Jawahar Lalji laid the foundation for it, he said that these were the temples of the modern world. The project was expected to be completed by the end of the Fourth Plan, but due to paucity of funds, it continued all these years. The present problem is only with regard to digging of canals in

the tail-end areas. While this process has been there, the 1980 Forest Act came into being and because of that, this small portion of the work were stopped. In view of the fact that the Government has stated categorically several times that the existing irrigation potential should be made best use of and in view of the fact that the Government has sent all the proposals and barring only one which requires one hectare land, i. e. Jamalapuram Major, all other proposals 17 in number involve only 230 hectares of land by which more than 10,000 hectares of land can be provided irrigation water, will the Government please clear the proposals immediately without insisting for the details of the composite map, all of which was also made available to the Government very long, long back ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the doubt expressed by the hon. Member is unfounded. The project had been completed in 1966. The right canal had been dug and for left canal they sent schemes to the Government in 1982-83 and 1984-85 which means that prior to that even the scheme had not been sent to us. Within one month of submission of the scheme we pointed out the shortcomings to them and asked them to remove those shortcomings. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we sent not one but 11 reminders to the State Government. I can tell you the dates also. On 21.9.82, 2.7.84, 21.8.84, 2.7.85, 26.8.85, 21.11.85, 13.1.86, 25.3.86, 27.3.86 and 16.6.86 they were reminded by telegrams and lastly, on 4.8.86 a D.O. letter was sent. They were informed about the shortcomings and were requested to remove them so that the project could be sanctioned at the earliest. So far they have not replied. On receipt of reply, we shall clear the project within a week if the reply complies with the rules framed in this connection.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Mr. Speaker Sir, this is only a classic example of the red-tapism that is prevailing here, in spite of the Prime Minister's assurance to the country that he would take us into the 21st century...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Even when they seek just one week's time limit ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : If I may respond to that, I entirely agree with the hon. member that delays are caused by red-tapism that exist in the system. My hon. Minister here has just stated on the floor of the House that within one week of receiving the answers from the State Government, he would clear it. Red-tapism, I beg to state Sir, exists in the State and not at the Centre.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Red tape and white cap go together.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Here is my second supplementary. The Government has asked for cost benefit analysis for clearance of this small area which is connected. The cost benefit analysis of the entire project was given long back prior to starting of the project. How can it be a continuous process ? In view of the fact that the cost benefit analysis involves only a few hectares of land in which practically there is no forest at all which was made clear in the report in view of the fact that it will help thousands of hectares of land to be irrigated and also in view of the fact that the State Government has taken up an issue of three *pattas* and raising of mango and other very big plants in the denuded forest lands in which there are no trees at all, at present, belonging to the Forest Department, will the Government clear it most immediately ?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, before my Minister responds to the question, I will just like to thank the hon. Member for acknowledging that red tapism exists in the State Government.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : It is from the Centre, that I want to make it clear.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Unnecessary confusion is being created by the Prime Minister, as usual.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what he has said is not true. The Hon. Prime Minister has given the right reply. If in spite of sending several reminders, no reply has come from the State Government, it is not the fault of the Government of India.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : What is the cost benefit analysis now ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Kindly listen to me calmly. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the forest land has to be utilised, then the State Government should provide equivalent land as replacement. If land is not available then the concerned Government will have to pay the cost of afforestation on double the land of the denuded forest so that loss of the forest is compensated. They have not sent us the correct map showing wherefrom the forest land will be taken, canal and minor canal will be dug and how much forest will be damaged etc. Unless the scheme with full detail is received, the Government of India is unable to sanction it.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATTIA : They are producing a film on the forest.

[*English*]

SHRI K. S. RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this project was taken up long time back. The issue is only about the completion of patches left at the tail end of the canal which cost about Rs. 20 crores now and the cultivable land is 1,10,000 acres which gives Rs. 100 crores worth of products every year. So, it is highly economical—nowhere else it is possible. I want to put

it to the hon. Prime Minister himself, whether he will create a mechanism, where the State Government is continuously indulging in red-tapism, parallelly abusing the Central Government by making allegations and making provocative speeches locally, and where the State Government fails, in such cases, whether the Central Government will see that it is cleared immediately without waiting for their reply because it is only a matter of one acre or two acres.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that the subject relates to the State Government. If the Government of India wants some information from the State Government and it does not provide the same, the Government of India becomes helpless. It is true that the projects which are of national interest should be cleared early but alongwith it the question of environment also is important. Unless we take care of both the aspects, the posterity will not be able to enter the 21st century. Therefore, it is very necessary that our environment should be without pollution. After receiving the reply from the State Government, we decide about the project within a week.

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been admitted here that the project was started way back in 1956 and the Congress-I ruled the State until 1983. So, one can conclude from that, as to who specialized in red tapism. Secondly...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That was a borrowed Congress Government.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Secondly, our hon. Minister Bhajan Lal has acquired his own redoubtable reputation for raising queries, as Haryana Chief Minister. I hope he will not bring to bear that expertise on this Environments

portfolio here, and create complications for the projects. The point here is...
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Put the question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Now the question is : in part (b) of the answer it is said that the forest officer sent by the Bangalore institute has himself pleaded for the clearance of the project. (*Interruptions*) Part (b) of the answer says that the forest officer sent by the Bangalore institute has recommended the clearance of the project. So, would Central Government agree not to trifle with the details, and clear the project immediately ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member without going deep into any subject gets easily provoked. He has mentioned Haryana here, what can I say about that. He is perhaps suffering from Haryana-phobia, of which I am not aware. I can only say this ...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You should not speak like this.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : He has rightly said that the foundation stone of the project was laid by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1956 and it was completed in 1966. So far as the question of the time gap between 1966 to date is concerned, the right canal had long back been dug but for the left canal they sent the scheme to us between 1982 and 1984-85. I do not know how he said that the Congress Party was in power during that period. I want to ask him what did the other Government do which also remained in power in between ? However, I can say that after receiving the reply from the State Government we shall decide the issue within a week.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What happened in between can also be replied to by the hon. Minister because in the Janata regime also he was a Chief Minister.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Next question No. 329-Mr. Kali Prasad Pandey is not here. Question 330-Mrs. Usha Chowdhury is not present. Now question 331. Mr. Kollandaivelu.

Forest clearance for welfare projects in States

*331. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which have applied for forest clearance for various welfare projects to be implemented in those States;

(b) whether Union Government have cleared those proposals; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) All the State Governments except Jammu & Kashmir, have sent proposals for diversion of forest lands for various projects. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 does not extend to Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c) Of 2265 proposals received till 31.10.1986, Government of India have approved 1075 proposals and rejected 382. Twenty-eight proposals were withdrawn by the State Governments. 734 proposals are closed in the Ministry on account of non submission of essential information asked for from the State Governments. Only 46 proposals are pending with the Government of India. Decisions on closed cases will be taken on receipt of required information from the State Governments. Of the 46 pending cases, in 31 cases information has been sought