

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We had to resort to this cut due to paucity of resources. So far as the investment in the Seventh Plan is concerned.

[English]

Rs. 32.65 crores is the allocation in the Seventh Plan as against Rs. 21.37 crores in the Sixth Plan.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : There has been reduction.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : There has been no reduction because in the Sixth Plan the allocation was Rs. 21.37 crores and in the Seventh Plan it is Rs. 32.65 crores. There is a substantial increase.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : It concerns the interests of the farmers. Madhya Pradesh is a predominantly a farmers' State. When the Hon. Minister and the Department of Agriculture have approved it, the budget allocation should not have been cut. It should be re-considered.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I have already stated that some of the schemes which we wanted to take up, are not being taken up due to resources constraint. But there are a number of centres in Madhya Pradesh which are engaged in this work. There is a Centre of Potato Research Institute at Gwalior; then there is a Fruit Institute at Rewa; then we have a Potato Institute at Chhindwara and Vegetable Institute at Jabalpur. In Indore, we have an Institute for Medicine and Aromatic Plants. Similar institute is there in Mandsaur also. Besides, there are *ad hoc* schemes. Then there is a Vegetable Institute in Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jabalpur. Apart from this, three new Centres of co-ordinated project are about to be launched for the tribals in Jagdalpur. The second project is of mushroom and the third of coconut. But their locations are yet to be decided. Thus, there are a number of *ad hoc* schemes besides regional schemes of N.R.E.P. Therefore, it cannot be said that no such schemes has been formulated

for Madhya Pradesh. But since there are financial constraints, we are not able to take up new schemes.

[English]

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : Huge quantities of different types of fruits are available in West Bengal. There are some important fruits which are available only there and Barnipur is a place of fruit-growers. But due to lack of additional resources and lack of initiative on the part of the State Government, these fruit-growers are being exploited like anything and now the fruit gardens are being destroyed. So, I want to know whether the Government have any proposal to set up a Regional Fruit Research Centre in West Bengal to protect the interests of the fruit-growers and also to ensure proper utilisation of these valuable fruits.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I will examine the suggestion made by the Hon. Member.

Desalination of salt water

*915. **SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA :** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a second plant for making salt water fit for drinking;

(b) whether in parts of Kutch, Saurashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka people still drink brackish water with salinity ranging from 5 per cent to 20 per cent and the water besides being saline, sometimes contains undesirable and harmful chemicals;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to provide pure drinking water to the people in remote areas;

(d) the schemes proposed to be undertaken during 1986-87; and

(e) the States and areas that will be covered under this scheme and by what time

drinking water will be provided to almost all the people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Under the Scheme of large scale application of water desalination research, 7 de-salination units for field trials/demonstration have been set up in the States of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. The eighth unit is being installed in Rajasthan. Detailed information in this regard is given in the Statement below.

(b) It is a fact that in some areas in the country, the available water is brackish and unfit for human consumption.

(c) to (e). The performance, efficiency and economics of de-salination technologies on the basis of the eight demonstration units will be evaluated by National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur. The evaluation is expected to be completed by early, 1987. Further extension and large scale application of de-salination technologies will depend on the results of the evaluation.

Statement

Latest Position of Installation and Operation of Desalination Plants in Different States.

Sl. No.	State	Village in which units have been installed/are being set up	District	Type of technology	Institute which installed the unit	Present position
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Gujarat	a) Malike b) Adalsar	Surendra Nagar -do-	Reverse Osmosis Electro-Dialysis	Bhaba Atomic Research Centre, Bombay Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar.	Commissioned in February, 1985. Trial runs are on. Commissioned in April, 1985. Trial runs are on.
2.	Tamil Nadu	a) Melakodu- malur puram b) Nothivayal	Ramanadha- puram -do-	Reserve Osmosis Electro-Dialysis	-do- -do-	Commissioned in Jan., 85. Trial runs and evaluation going on. Commissioned in April, 1985. Trial runs and evaluation going on.

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3.	Andhra Pradesh	a) Kattuva Palli	Nellore	Reverse Osmosis	Bhaba Atomic Research Centre, Bombay.	The plant was commissioned in April, '85. After initial problems the plant is working satisfactorily now. Recommissioned in June, 1985.
		b) Pena Merru	Guntur	Electro-Dialysis	Defence Research Laboratory, Jodhpur.	Commissioned in April, '85. Trial runs on.
4.	Rajasthan	a) Lolawas	Pali	Reserve Osmosis	Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar.	Being installed
		b) Merasiya	Jodhpur	Electro-Dialysis	Defence Research Laboratory, Jodhpur	Commissioned in July, '85 Trial runs are on.

SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA : In other states also there is saline water. Why only four states have been selected? It is a random selection or is it based on any other consideration?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Sir, the Hon. Member wants to know as to why the States other than those selected by the Government for setting up of units of desalination of salt water have not been selected for this purpose? First of all, we had convened a meeting of Secretaries in June, 1983 at the behest of the former Prime Minister which unanimously decided to set up a Working Group. Six members were kept on this Working Group, of which Adviser, Central Public Health and Environment Engineering Organisation was made chairman. Rest of the five members included the representative of Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar. This Working Group had submitted its interim report in 1984 on desalination of salt and saline water in various parts of the country. We are going to complete it by 1987. It is proving very costly to us, especially in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tamilnadu where desalination units have been set up and our Ministry has allocated Rs. 3 lakhs per unit. In these units, 10 thousand litres of potable water is produced in 8 hours—the quantity which is sufficient for a village with a population of one thousand and with per capita consumption of 10 litres. This water will be used especially for cooking and drinking purposes.

[*English*]

SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Karnataka is one of the States which is having brackish water containing not only salt but also bacteria and other chemical materials which are injurious to health. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is audible in the House. If you all the Hon. Members

continue to talk among yourself like this, I shall tell the Hon. Member not to put his supplementaries.

[*English*]

SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Doctor's opinions are that about 90 per cent of the diseases are water borne. If that is so, why Karnataka also could not have been selected?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Sir, the Hon. Member has given some suggestion about Karnataka. For that, we shall call for a report from the State Government and get their needs examined.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this problem of saline water is certainly there in Churu district of Rajasthan but apart from that saline and brackish water is found in the whole of Rajasthan. The detailed statement, which the Hon. Minister has laid on the Table of the House, speaks about only two projects under which the Government are going to make arrangement to remove salinity of water. These projects have not benefited Rajasthan at all. The constituency the Hon. Speaker represents as also the western districts around it are also facing this problem of saline water. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what steps they have taken to remove salinity of water in Rajasthan, because the water in those areas contains such salts that if taken by an animal or by a human being, either he will become fat or will be rendered blind. What arrangements you are going to make in this regard so that the people of Rajasthan could get pure drinking water?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The Hon. Member has asked for information specifically about Rajasthan. As I have said earlier, we are calling for reports from the States as to how pure drinking water can be supplied to the maximum number of people by the year 1987. So far as the question of supplying pure drinking water to Rajasthan is concerned, I have referred to Lolawas,

Pali and one other scheme in my reply also. We are going to arrange supply of pure drinking water to the people through those schemes. Secondly, the Government of Rajasthan have not selected the site as yet, due to which our work is held up there. I have already told about the Working Group. We are also pursuing that and as soon as the results are known, we shall see to it that wherever there is saline water, it is made potable.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that they are going to set up plants in two villages in Andhra Pradesh also. There is acute scarcity of water there. The State Government are doing boring for supply of water, but at places saline water is found. I congratulate the Hon. Minister that he has ordered to instal machines there for desalination of water. My submission is that the sooner it is done the better it would be, because the people are facing a lot of difficulty for water there. Especially, the farmers are facing a great deal of problem, because they do not get drinking water even for their bullocks, as a result of which they are forced to sell their healthy cows, bullocks and buffaloes for slaughter. Therefore, it would be better if arrangements for water are made as early as possible. It will be so kind of you Ghafoor Saheb if you could arrange for water early; the people of the State would bless you.

MR. SPEAKER : The question of Tulsi is got to be replied in poetry.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the supplementaries put by the Hon. Members belonging to different States, it appears that they want to know as to why such plants are not being installed in their respective States. But let me tell them categorically that these eight units are functioning in four States only. For this purpose, we have decided to evaluate its cost for one year. For instance, let me tell you that the cost in Delhi and Bombay is 35 paise and 30 paise, respectively, whereas the cost in these units in Rs. 24 to Rs. 28. The cost in the areas where water is available at a distance of 20 miles would be comparatively,

lower than these units, if water is carried by trucks. Therefore, all these difficulties are before us. What a staggering difference. In the first case it is 35 to 40 paise and in the latter case, the cost is 24 to 28 rupees per thousand litres. Therefore, it is not that these units will spread throughout the country. We are still evaluating it. Figures from all over the country would be called for by the 27th February, 1987 as to where those units are needed and we shall see how cheap it costs when this work is undertaken on a large scale. As such, the Hon. Member will have to wait for another year.

[English]

**Explosion in Bhilai Steel Plant
melting shop**

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*916. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :**
SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether two workers were killed in an explosion in a furnace in the Bhilai Steel Plant melting shop on April 3, 1986;

(b) whether any inquiry into the causes of the accident has been conducted, if so, with what results; and

(c) the compensation paid to the next kin of the deceased workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The management of Bhilai Steel Plant has constituted a high level Enquiry Committee to enquire into the accident. Government of Madhya Pradesh has also constituted an Enquiry Committee

(c) The following compensation amounts payable to the successors of the deceased under the Workmen's Compensation Act have been deposited with the Compensation Commissioner :