

the Chandil Dam and the Icha Dam are the once which will have overall benefit the State of Bihar.

As regards the garland canal, the hon. Member will be glad to know that the water basins of the country are being studied. The dry basins will be connected with the surplus water basins. These studies are going on in two parts. One is the Himalayan territory, and the other one is the Deccan part. These studies are going on. A question may be asked, why it is being delayed. These studies have to be carried out in consultation with the respective States. Only a few days ago I had a meeting with some of the Ministers from the States. We have discussed how water can be got in dry basins including those of the rivers in Bihar.

About the necklace channel particularly which the hon. Member has mentioned, I think, he has the Himalayan necklace channel in mind. For that a lot of study is going on, but no firming up has been made so far.

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी : तीस सालों से हिमालयन नेकलेस बना रहा है।

^{REV.} SHRI P. K. THUNGOON: That is why I am saying that all the steps have to be discussed, and the techno-economic feasibility has to be studied.

In a meeting taken by the Prime Minister, you will be glad to know, Madam, even for the Brahmaputra valley we are having a study by the Brahmaputra Flood Control Board on whether the Brahmaputra water can be brought to Bihar, up to Bihar for the best utilisation of the available water in other parts.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Madam Deputy Chairman, the Minister has stated that the Subarnarekha Project which has been funded by the World Bank, is for the purpose of irrigation in the States of Bihar and Orissa. This is located mostly in the tribal areas of both the States. I would like to know from the Minister the reasons for the stoppage of the work in the Orissa region

of the Subarnarekha Project, since when and when probably the work is expected to start again.

SHRI P. K. THUNGOON: Madam, regarding the stoppage of work, I have no information, but I can assure the hon. Member that if the work has stopped, I will see that it starts again.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: If you don't have the information, kindly check up with your officers.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kindly check it up.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: The work stopped two years ago.

SHRI P. K. THUNGOON: I will certainly check up why it has been stopped and how it can be started again.

*128. [The Questioner *Mr. Naunihal Singh*] was absent. For answer vide Col. . .infra.]

*129. [The Questioner (*Shri P. Upendra*)] was absent. For answer vide Col. . .infra.]

Subsidy to farmers for drip irrigation

*130. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:†

SHRI G. G. SWELL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent subsidy is given to farmers for drip irrigation;

(b) if so, when this scheme for subsidy was started and what is the disbursement so far in relation to the number of farmers involved, acreage covered and total amount spent as subsidy;

(c) whether it is a fact that under drip irrigation scheme, Rs. 12,000 capital cost is calculated per acre and 50 per cent is paid as subsidy;

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Subramanian Swamy.

(d) whether the capital cost charged to farmers for drip irrigation per acre, as worked out by Government, is too high, and thereby subsidy quantum goes higher which goes into the coffers of manufacturers;

(e) whether the high cost of drip irrigation hinders agricultural development;

(f) which are the leading manufacturers of drip irrigation pipes; and

(g) whether Government propose to instruct them to prune down the prices of D. I. pipes at reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Central Sector Scheme providing subsidy for use of drip irrigation system in horticultural crops was initiated since 1990-91. The Government of India has disbursed Rs. 3583.1 lakhs in the 3 years from 1990 to 1993 to various State Governments/UTs for the purpose to cover 44667 hectare area under drip irrigation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

(f) A list of leading manufacturers of drip irrigation system is given at statement and is laid on the Table of the Sabha, (See below).

(g) The Government is in regular contact with system manufacturers, providing back-up support in form of installation, training and occasional monitoring of the system and for rationalising the price structure.

Statement

List of leading DRIP System Manufacturers in India

M/s. Agroplast
14 Belladapet
Tiptur-572201
Karnataka
Tele: 2653

M/s. Agritools
1-2-33/5, Gagan Mahal Road
Domalguda, Hyderabad-50029
Andhra Pradesh Tele: 66344
Gram: AGRITOLS

M/s. E.P.C. Irrigation
122 TV Indl State SK Ahire
Marg, Worli Bombay-400018
Tele: 4939270, 4939225,
4939278 Telex: 011-71457
EXKIIN

M/s. Pasumai Finance & Ind.
(P) Ltd. 62 Spurtank Road,
Chelpet Madras-600031
Tele: 861092, 861114
Telex: 041-7647 GRAM:
COROCOMBI

M/s. Elgi Equipments Ltd.
India House Trichy Road
Coimbatore-641018
Tele: 30355 GRAM: HYDRAULIUCS
Telex: 0855-222

M/s. Flow Tech Power
137-London Mission School
Street Pappanaickenpalayam,
Coimbatore-641037, Tamilnadu
Tele: 850484

M/s. Premier Irrigation
Equipment Ltd. 17/1c-Alipore
Road, Calcutta-700027
(West Bengal) Tele: 455302/
457455 GRAM: PREQUI
Telex: 021-8033 PIEC IN

M/s. Satish Agricultural
Engg. Pattiveeranpatti-624211
Madurai Tamil Nadu

M/s. Jyoti Ltd. Agri.
Product Divn. B-3/15 BIDD,
Gorwa Vadodara-390003
Tele: 320448, 320561
Telex: 0175-215 JMPIN
Gram: SERVEJOYTI

M/s. Telecom Wires & Cables
M. S. Rammalah Industrial
Estate Gokula, Bangalore-560054

M/s. Polyene General Industries
11-A Industrial Estate,
Madras-600032 Telex: 051-57

M/s. Voltas Ltd. AIP Division
19-J, N. Heredia Marg Ballard
Estate Bombay-400038
Tele: 2614715 Fax: 4151852
Telex: 73339/73354
GRAM: VOLTAIP

M/s. Irrigation Engineering
Company, 7-1-35/1 Uma Karan Road,
Near Pappu Bread Factory
Ameerpet Hyderabad-500016
Phone: 75749, 240598, 77548

M/s. Polyolefins Inds. Ltd.
Mafatlal Centre Nariman Point,
Bombay-400021 Tele: 2024226
Fax: 2020691 Gram: PILEIN
Telex: 011-3478 PIL IN

M/s. Kissan Irrigation Equipments
1696, Vijaysree Buildings
Trichy Road, Ramnathapuram
Coimbatore-641045

M/s. Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.
Jain Industrial Complex
Nimkhedi KR D Jalgaon-425001
Tele: 26906, 26515, 26908
Telex: 753-254 JAIN IN
FAX: 257-24602 GRAM JAIN DRIP

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
The Minister was kind enough to give a list of leading drip system manufacturers in India. In view of the fact that the system has been perfected and innovated to a great extent by Israel, I would like to know whether any of these companies are in foreign collaboration with Israeli companies.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: I do not have the information just now, but I will check up.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
Will he answer 'yes' or 'no'?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: I will check up.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
So, he will check up the list of companies if they have Israeli collaboration and then give an assurance in the House. It is an assurance.

My second supplementary is in view of the fact that drip irrigation is the great

test conservator of water, I would like to know whether the Government of India has taken any steps to entrust the Government of Gujarat and other associated States on the Sardar Sarovar Project to use the drip irrigation system.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Yes, I can assure the hon. Member that the efficacy of drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation demands much more attention from all sides. This is the only salvation for the growing population as well as the need for production of more foodgrains. However we may try, but water is the most essential priority for any crop production; and the only way to do is to minimise the use of water by maximising the use of it. So simple it is. And the best tried methods are drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation. I am trying to convey it to the State Governments. I have talked to the Gujarat Government, I have talked to the Tamil Nadu Government and the Maharashtra Government and also to every other Government on this subject, because this is going to be a panacea for our ills, also saving the water plus saving the soil, because mere flood irrigation and extravagant use of water also throws up salts and it becomes saline land.

Naturally it is the most efficient way of doing it. My Ministry is trying to galvanise these things. I can assure you provided we have got the wherewithal and the finances to support this system. Then these inter-State quarrels regarding the issue of power and water will also evaporate. We can do it. I talked to the Gujarat Chief Minister about the Sardar Sarovar Project. I told him if it could be possible that instead of doing this canal system by way of flood irrigation, if we can revert to this or convert ourselves to the new idea of sprinkler irrigation. There will be three times more irrigation and the water will be much saved. More irrigation will come about. Also, just like in the Kutch area, where there is more of salty land, it might not throw more salt. So, both ways it will be beneficial. I am trying my best my Ministry is trying its best. I am giving 50 per cent subsidy to all these

people. I have taken out this curtailment up to four acres, but I am not also going to leave anything not attempted, to see that this thing is going down to every corner of the country and the farmers get benefit out of it. Not only this; I can assure the House that the trends shown by drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation give more yields and also save on fertiliser use. So, with all these benefits combined I think this is the only way that India can progress on the agricultural front and we are going to do that.

SHRI G. G. SWELL- Madam, the Minister said that Rs. 12,000 per acre is the cost. In answer to the question he said that it is not high. A number of knowledgeable people in this country including manufacturers say that the cost per acre would be met with Rs. 6000. Now, I would like to know what the Minister's formula is. Can he give us this break up? How did he arrive at the figure of Rs. 12,000?

SHRI BALARAM JAKHAR: Madam this figure varies according to the different types of crops which we have to irrigate. It can vary from mango plantation to sugarcane plantation or cotton plantation. It can vary from place to place. It is not that every acreage will be falling under this view. For this purpose I am holding a conference with the manufacturer to bring down the cost to make it available and affordable to my farmers and also to impress upon them that this should be standardised. The farmers should not be cheated. For that very purpose I am taking every effort to finalise it.

श्रीमती उमिलाबेन चिमनभाई पटेल :
मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहूंगी कि ड्रिप इरीगेशन अपनाते के लिए गुजरात गवर्नमेंट ने केन्द्र सरकार के पास जो स्कीम रखी है क्या आप यह स्कीम मंजूर कर रहे हैं और कब तक कर रहे हैं तथा जो सौ करोड़ रुपया मांगा है वह मंजूर करेंगे ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I could not follow what she has said.

श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी : गुजरात गवर्नमेंट ने जो आपसे पूछा है आप कब उसका जवाब देंगे—ड्रिप इरीगेशन के बारे में ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Madam, I have already talked to the Chief Minister; and whatever case is lying with us, it will not be delayed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 131.

Capital investment in Agriculture

*131. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of capital investment in agriculture during the last three years and which are the major regions going for higher capital investment;

(b) whether the credit quantum and percentage in overall lending by nationalised banks fulfil the rising demand for agricultural credit; and

(c) if not, what are the avenues for raising level of lending to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

† The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chimanbhai Mehta.