

नई सिंचाई नीति

*62. श्री राम जेठमसानी :
श्री वीरने जे. शाह :

क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने 113 मिलियन हेक्टेयर और भूमि को सिंचित क्षेत्र में लाने के लिए एक नई सिंचाई नीति की घोषणा की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त नीति का व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए कितनी अर्द्धि निर्धारित की गई ?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री बिछावरण शुक्ल) :
(क) जी नहीं। तथापि, कमान क्षेत्र में उचित जल प्रबंध सुनिश्चित करने की दृष्टि से राष्ट्रीय जल नीति से भिन्न सिंचाई प्रबंध के लिए राष्ट्रीय नीति अपनाने के वास्ते कदम उठाए गए हैं।

(ख) नीति का जोर जल के इष्टतम उपयोग तथा प्रचालन और अनुरक्षण, संयुक्त उपयोग, जल विकास, कृषक भागीदारी, अनुरक्षण अनुदानों, जल दरों, प्रशिक्षण आदि के संबंध में विज्ञान-निर्देशों के लिए सिंचाई प्रणाली के उचित प्रबंध पर होगा।

(ग) अर्द्धि, जिस तक लक्ष्य प्राप्त किया जाएगा, को अंतिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Sir, may I draw your attention to the question and the answer. If you see the answer, it says :

"However, steps have been initiated....."

"The thrust of the policy will be on proper management...."

The period by which the target will be achieved has not been finalised."

सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री वीरने जे. शाह द्वारा पूछा गया।

This is an extraordinarily important matter like irrigation and water requirement for the country for the last 45 years that we have experienced, and this is the kind of reply. It makes it very difficult to ask a supplementary.

However, this arose from a report of the UNI, quoting the hon. Minister by name :

"Union Water Resources Minister, V.C. Shukla, told UNI that the States and Union Territories have been asked to prepare their irrigation schemes. Government has launched a new irrigation policy. The new irrigation policy, according to Mr. Shukla, was launched after the Irrigation Ministers' Conference."

This came in the newspapers on the 2nd of November. There have been editorials on that from the 5th of November onwards. And now the hon. Minister says that there has been no such policy even but that steps have been initiated.

May I ask first whether the report which came, has any truth in it whatsoever or there is none. Thereafter I will ask the further supplementary.

SHRI V.C. SHUKLA : Sir, the reports that have been printed in the newspapers are a little inaccurate. What was said actually was that a national policy on irrigation management was being formulated in consultation with the State Governments. And this, irrigation management, is certainly different from the irrigation policy itself which was agreed upon and which has been in operation since 1987 when the national water policy was adopted unanimously by the country. Within the framework of that national water policy, this national policy on irrigation management has been drafted, it was discussed in the Irrigation Ministers' Conference in September. After that the Parliamentary Committee attached to the ...

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Whatever be the national management policy, is there any additional hectares to be covered, or 'is it the same ?

SHRI V.C. SHUKLA : There is no additional hectare to be covered. What has been mentioned in the newspapers is the ultimate irrigation potential in the country; 113 million hectares is the ultimate irrigation potential in the country identified, but erroneously that has been mentioned as if that is the additional irrigation potential that is going to be created by this particular policy. This particular policy, as I have stated in my main reply, is for efficient management of the irrigation potential which is already there and whatever will be created in future. This is the main thing. So, there is some avoidable confusion created by a little erroneous Press report. It is regarding the national policy on irrigation management, not irrigation policy as such which was finalised in 1987.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Sir, let us take the irrigation management aspect. Would the hon. Minister kindly indicate to this House as to what basic changes are being done now or being contemplated for better management of water resources and irrigation particularly in the context of our slow pace of irrigation work which has been taken up and in the context of loss of water and water not even reaching the fields ? I believe that nearly 8 million hectares of land do not receive water despite money being spent on irrigation projects because of the final schemes of the canals not being put into effect and we lose out. What are the specific steps you are taking for better management of water resources ?

(b) In the on-going major projects like Tehri where foreign aid was to come over 80 per cent from the former Soviet Union, we have spent Rs. 700 crores. How are you going to plan for better management in the next five years to see that this becomes effective ?

SHRI V.C. SHUKLA : Sir, schemes like Tehri are not covered by this national policy on irrigation management. What I stressed earlier was that the efficiency of the existing irrigation schemes of the country has to be improved. The main thrust areas that the hon. Member has asked for are the cropping pattern,—that we have to see, while seeing the proper

utilisation of irrigation water,—the techniques of water application. Then, the water rates for different crops. The aim is to ensure proper water management in the command areas and this command area management is the most crucial thing as far as the irrigation management is concerned. This command area management has to be given a new thrust and a proper back-up. This is how this has come up.

I will give you the objectives also which have been enumerated in this policy paper. The first objective is maximum agricultural production per unit of area where water potential is in excess of the land potential. This is the first objective.

The second objective is maximum production per unit of water where land potential is in excess of the utilisable water potential.

The third objective is maximisation of service area in the drought-prone regions. These are the three objectives which have been put forward in this water irrigation management plan that has been given to the States.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : What about 8^{1/2} million hectares of land for which money has been spent, irrigation canals are there, but it is not benefiting ?

SHRI V.C. SHUKLA : Sir, it has been stated several times in this House that there is a difference between the irrigation potential created and the irrigation potential utilised. We are constantly trying to bridge that gap.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : धन्यवाद सभापति जी । मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि सिंचाई के प्रबंध के लिए वे नयी राष्ट्रीय नीति बनाने के लिए कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं । मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से कहना चाहती हूँ कि जनता पार्टी के समय हिन्दुस्तान की सारी अस्सिचित भूमि को सिंचित करने के लिए एक योजना का प्रारूप तैयार किया गया था जिसका नाम गारलैंड कैनल विद्या गया था, जिसके तहत यह प्रस्तावित था कि पंजाब से कावेरी को जोड़ा जाए और हिन्दुस्तान की तमाम नदियों को जोड़ करके एक नयी सिंचाई नीति बनाई जाए । उससे देश का

भायनात्मक रिश्ता भी मजबूत होता और देश में एक जल परिवहन की भी कल्पना की गयी थी तथा अतिरिक्त भूमि को भी सिंचित करने का प्रावधान था। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि उस प्रस्तावित योजना का क्या हुआ, क्या नए सिंचाई प्रबंध के लिए जो राष्ट्रीय नीति आप बनाने जा रहे हैं क्या उसमें उसके कुछ पहलुओं का समावेश इस राष्ट्रीय नीति में भी किया गया है या नहीं ?

श्री विशाखरण शुक्ल : सभापति जी, गार्लैंड योजना की माननीय सदस्या ने जो बात कही है उसके बारे में चर्चा अवश्य उठी थी और इसके बारे में गहन अध्ययन किया गया है और अध्ययन के पश्चात् यह पाया गया था कि इस प्रकार की योजना संभव नहीं है क्या उत्तर भारत की नदियों को दक्षिण भारत की नदियों से जोड़ा जाना व्यावहारिक रूप से या तकनीकी रूप से संभव नहीं है। अतएव हम लोग जो प्रयास कर रहे हैं और जिसके बारे में काफी काम हो चुका है और काम हम बढ़ाते ही जा रहे हैं, वह यह है कि प्रायद्वीप में जो नदियाँ हैं, उनको एक-दूसरे से जोड़ा जाए और प्रायद्वीप में जहाँ नदियों के बाधजुद भी पानी की कमी है, वहाँ कुछ ऐसी नदियाँ हैं, जिनके कछार में पानी अधिक है, जैसा कि महानदी कछार में आवश्यकता से अधिक पानी अभी उपलब्ध है। गोदावरी कछार में भी हम लोगों के अनुमान से पानी ज्यादा अभी उपलब्ध है।

तो गोदावरी और महानदी को हम जोड़ कर, पम्पार से ले आकर कृष्णा और कावेरी तक ले जा सकते हैं। इस तरह से जोड़ कर जहाँ जल की आपूर्ति की कमी है, वहाँ उसकी आपूर्ति को पूरा किया जा सकता है।

उसी प्रकार से उत्तर भारत में जहाँ नदियाँ में जल अधिक है, पानी की उतनी कमी नहीं है, जहाँ-जहाँ आवश्यकता है, इनको जोड़ा जा सकता है। पर उत्तर भारत की नदियों को दक्षिण से जाना संभव नहीं पाया गया। इसलिए उस तरह का कोई प्रयास नहीं किया जा रहा है।

SHRI JAGMOHAN : Sir I would like to know what the Government is doing to ensure that there is no excessive use of ground-water potential by rich farmers as a result of which the level of ground-water goes down and poor farmers are not able to utilise their tube-wells.

SHRI V. C. SHUKLA : Sir, this is a serious problem which has been noticed in some parts of the country where there has been excessive exploitation of the ground-water potential. This has resulted, in sea-coastal areas, in ingress of salinity because the sea water has been pumped out. And, in several areas, more hand-pumps have been installed and are being worked than the ground-water can support. Therefore, several proposals were examined in this Ministry about limiting the number of tube-wells and we have not yet come to any particular conclusion because there are very complicated questions involved in this matter. The State Governments have been consulted and we will certainly try and find out some ways and means. We do not want to impose any legal restrictions on boring of tube-wells because they will create more problems than will solve. But, barring that legal method, we will try and find out methods by consensus between the State Governments and the Central Government to see that the ground-water is properly utilised in conjunction with the surface irrigation water and the ground-water recharge system is also installed and utilised properly so that wherever there has been an alarming lowering of ground-water level, that can be ascertained and brought to the normal level.

श्री एस. एस. सुरजबाला : सभापति जी, मंत्री महोदय ने हरिगोलन पालिसी के बारे में तो कह दिया कि कोई नई पालिसी नहीं बना रहे हैं, लेकिन उसके कुछ दूसरे पैरामीटर बताने की कोशिश की है।

मान्यवर, मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूँगा—मेरे एक अनस्टांड सवाल 951 के जवाब में इन्होंने यह बताया कि हरियाणा को एस. वाइ. एल. नहर के पूरा न होने से अठारह टन अनाज के उत्पादन में हर साल कमी होती है और एक सौ करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा वहाँ के लोगों का नुकसान होता है।

इसी के जवाब में इन्होंने बताया कि इस नहर को बनाने के लिए बाडर रोड आगनाइजेशन को देने का फैसला गवर्नमेन्ट आफ इण्डिया ने नहीं किया, बल्कि पंजाब सरकार को मंत्रालय ने एक चिट्ठी लिखी है।

मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगा कि जो ऐसे प्रोजेक्ट है, जो आलरेडी कंप्लीट हो चुके हैं—एस. वाई. एल. नहर पर हरियाणा का पानी लाने के लिए चार सौ करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च कर चुका है, पीछे पानी मौजूद है, पानी पाकिस्तान में जा रहा है, लेकिन उसका सिर्फ 10 प्रतिशत पोर्शन वापस है और पिछले छह-आठ साल से वह बंद है।

क्या भारत सरकार ऐसे प्रोजेक्ट्स को पूरा करवाने के लिए प्राथमिकता देगी ?

श्री विद्याधरण झुवला : सभापति जी, जिस नीति के संबंध में प्रश्न पूछा गया है उस नीति का संबंध केवल उन योजनाओं से है, उन परियोजनाओं से है जिनको कि पूरा कर लिया गया है और जिनको काम में लिया जा रहा है। जो योजनाएँ अभी पूरी नहीं हुई हैं उस परियोजना के ऊपर यह लागू नहीं होता है।

श्री एस. एस. सुरजेवाला : सभापति महोदय, जो परियोजना बनाई गई, पानी इस्तेमाल नहीं हो रहा है, उसका फायदा नहीं है। उस परियोजना का फायदा नहीं है, सारा रुपया खराब गया है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि परियोजना बनाने का फायदा नहीं है अगर पुरानी परियोजनाओं को आप लागू नहीं कर सकते ?

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister stated that the Government has decided to adopt a policy for irrigation management. I would like to know from the Minister whether the proposed policy will formulate measures to tap all the irrigation potential of nature to help the farmers. For instance, enabling the farmers of South Tamil Nadu to get the full benefit of the swaters of the west-flowing rivers which are going waste into the Arabian Sea. Also,

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether measures will be taken to make the drought-prone areas less vulnerable through water preservation and drip irrigation.

SHRI V. C. SHUKLA : Sir, although this supplementary doesn't concern this question, I would like to state that efforts are being made to divert certain west-flowing rivers to the drought-prone areas of Tamil Nadu and we have made efforts for making an agreement between the Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and our efforts, though slowly, are succeeding and we hope that ultimately an agreement could be made to utilise these waters which, flow westward and which are not utilised to the full extent and if they could be diverted eastward and could be utilised in the eastern region where water is required, it would really be beneficial for this region.

As far as the question on the drought-prone areas is concerned, this is precisely what we are doing about drip irrigation, about sprinkle irrigation. All these modern methods lead to conservation of scarce irrigation water and the new irrigation management policy is laying proper emphasis on this particular aspect.

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister mentioned that the target for irrigation is 113 million hectares. I would like to know the break-up as to how much of it is for major irrigation, how much for medium irrigation and how much, for small irrigation schemes and the cost thereof.

SHRI V. C. SHUKLA : Sir, the ultimate irrigation potential of the country has been estimated at 113 million hectares and I will lay a statement on the Table of the House so that the entire information is available to the hon. House regarding the whole country.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, the optimum use of available water resources is the Government object, whatever may be its policy. They have formulated so many projects and schemes to connect inter-State rivers. They have carried out a survey to find out the feasibility of linking inter-State rivers but these schemes could not materialise because one among the States concerned objects to

such schemes. The basic impediment seems to be in the Constitution itself. Unless an amendment in the Constitution is made, nothing can materialise in this regard. I would like to know from Government whether they would come forward to make the inter-State rivers a Central subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am afraid it is a separate question.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, it relates to irrigation. It is a very important question and it relates to irrigation. It comes under irrigation and so many projects are stopped because of this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am afraid it is not directly related to the present question. It is another question.

*63. [The Questioner (Shri P. Upendra) was absent. For answer vide col. 35 infra]

Projects to prevent Salinity Ingress in Gujarat

*64. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN : †

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer

to Starred Question 261 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th September, 1991 and state :

! (a) what is the area covered by salinity ingress on sea coast, desert area and other Khar lands; and

(b) what projects have been prepared and implemented for the above purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA) : (a) ! The areas covered by Salinity Ingress in Coastal Area, Desert and other Khar lands of Gujarat are 10.65 lakh hectares, 23.3 lakh hectares and 3.02 lakh hectares respectively.

(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(i) Salinity Ingress Prevention Scheme ; with Dutch Assistance is under formulation which seeks to prevent the lateral salinity ingress of sea water in lower aquifer along the Saurashtra Coastal line in Amrali, Bhavnagar and Kachesh districts.

(ii) The position of the projects prepared and implemented is as under :—

| On Sea Coast | Proposed | Completed |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| (a) Tidal Regulators | 11 | 5 |
| (b) Bandhara | 127 | 9 |
| (c) Gheck D | 1,575 | 58 |
| (d) Recharge Reservoir | 5 | 1 |
| (e) Recharge Tank | 7 | 5 |
| (f) Recharge Wells | 1,480 | 20 |
| (g) Afforestation | 1,047 lac Hectare | 515 hectare |
| (h) Wells Plug | 95,400 Numbers | 317 Numbers |

On Desert Area: NIL

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mohd. Khaleelur Rahman,