

**SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM (Uttar Pradesh) :** Madam, when are you going to take up the clarifications on this statement, today itself or on Monday ?

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) :** The clarifications on this statement will be taken up on Monday. Now we have to take up the clarifications on the Statement made by the Minister of Environment. But first the Minister of State for Home Affairs is going to make an announcement regarding the Government business for the next week.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE RAJYA SABHA DURING THE WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 3RD AUGUST, 1992**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) :** Madam Vice-Chairman, with your permission. I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 3rd August, 1992, will consist of :

##### **1. Consideration and passing of:**

(a) The Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Amendment Bill, 1992, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(b) The National Waterway (Kollam-Kottapuram Stretch of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyog Mandal Canals) Bill, 1992, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(c) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Amendment Bill, 1992.

(d) The Army (Amendment) Bill, 1992, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(e) The Beedi & Cigar Worker<sup>s</sup> (Conditions of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1990.

2. Discussion on the Resolutions seeking disapproval of the Capital Issues (Control) Repeal Ordinance, 1992, and consideration and passing of the Capital Issues (Control) Repeal Bill, 1992, as passed by Lok Sabha.

3. Consideration and passing of the Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings Amendment Bill, 1992, as passed by Lok Sabha.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) :** Now we will take up clarifications on the statement made by the Minister of Environment and Forests.

#### **CLARIFICATIONS ON STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

##### **United Nations Conference On Environment And Development**

**SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra) :** Madam Vice-Chairman, first of all I wish to compliment our Prime Minister and our Minister of Environment. I must say that our Minister of Environment was there from the beginning of the conference and he had mobilised the support of all the Third World countries. It is after a long time that our country in such a forum has proved that we have got that capacity. As regards environment, I had been to Uganda where there was an Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference and this subject was discussed there also. A resolution was passed there because USA at that time was not willing to contribute. It is a developed country and it has made developing countries suffer and as such it is the duty of developed countries to help developing countries by giving finance for the

[Shri Jagesh Desai]

purpose of environment. They are going to give us technology. I would like to know how they are going to give it to us or to other developing countries. What has been done for that purpose ? This is a fight between haves and have-nots. I am happy that our Government has put forth their views very strongly and effectively and they have also tried to see that the Third World countries and other countries fall in line. I compliment the Government for that. But I would like to know regarding the financial part. How are the developed countries going to finance the developing countries ? Because, regarding environment developing countries have to get some assistance for their development and that will be a problem. To what extent are they going to help us for resolving those difficulties ? Who is going to monitor ? Will it be the UNO or any other agency ? The Third World countries should not get the due share but a lion's share for the purpose of environment. This, I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Once again I put on record my compliment for the very good work done by the Minister and I think the whole House will join me and commend him for the work he has done.

**SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY** (Pondicherry) : Madam Vice-Chairman, first of all I would like to submit that our hon. Prime Minister did a tremendous job in unifying the Third World countries and creating an awareness among them about the environmental problems that are being faced by the World community. I also thank the hon. Minister who took all the pains to see that the Rio Conference becomes successful. Initially, apprehensions were raised in the media and outside that the Conference will not be successful and the developed countries will not cooperate with the developing countries in arriving at a solution to the environmental problems facing the world. Madam, it is to the credit of our country that India

took the leadership and was the first country which initiated the discussions and contributed so much in the deliberations. A person coming from Pondicherry, Lt. Governor of Pondicherry, who was a member of the delegation was able to tell me how the delegation contributed day and night for the purpose of bringing the resolutions. Madam, inspite of all the efforts made, the US, though initially did not backed out of the commitment which they made, did not cooperate on three vital things with the world community on the environmental problems. First, the convention on bio-diversity was not signed. Secondly, for the purpose of new and additional financial resources to the developing countries to finance the environmental strategies for sustainable development, contribution by the US was not up to the expectations. Thirdly, it was agreed by the countries who participated in the Conference that they would come forward and exchange technologies to avoid environmental degradation. Unfortunately, Mr. Bush—it was expected that he will not attend the Conference attended the Rio Conference and turned down these three important proposals. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a world opinion will be created because our information is that even some of the developing countries are helpless in this issue when Mr. Bush has categorically denied in signing these conventions. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what is the role of the Government of India in pressuring the US Government for the purpose of signing these three agreements.

Madam, the developed countries have got all the technologies and sophisticated weaponry. The testing of their sophisticated system causes air pollution, water pollution, etc. and it plays havoc on the other nations including the Third World countries. It is not a issue of one country, it has become a world

issue, a global issue. It is pertinent that the Rio conference was successful with a note of the American administration not agreeing with the three important agreements. Madam, I would like to make one more suggestion. The role played by the Indian delegation was appreciated by 177 representative countries. It is a feather in the cap of our Prime Minister. The credit for bringing the Conference a success and bringing credit to India goes to Mr. Kamal Nath, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what follow-up action they are going to take after mobilisation of funds. I would also like to know whether groups of the nations will be formed for the purpose of implementing the agreements which have been signed by various countries.

**श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल) :** माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगी कि क्या यह सच है कि पृथ्वी सम्मेलन में भारत की तरफ से भाग लेने वालों में आनंदमार्गी के प्रतिनिधि भी शामिल थे? और, अगर यह सच है तो मंत्री महोदय इस बात से भी अच्छी तरह से परचित्त होंगे कि आनन्द मार्ग किस तरह का संगठन रहा है। यह संगठन साम्राज्यवादियों का और एक अलगवादी मुख्यालय संगठन रहा है, जिसके बारे में हमारे इस माननीय सदन में भी काफी सवाल उठ चुके हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि इस तरह के संगठन ने वहाँ किस तरह से प्रतिनिधित्व किया; और, प्रतिनिधित्व किया तो कैसे किया? भारत सरकार की या उनके मंत्रालय की इसमें क्या भूमिका रही?

मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न, महोदय, यह है कि पृथ्वी सम्मेलन का एक प्रमुख विषय था—संयुक्त राष्ट्र सम्मेलन में पर्यावरण और विकास के संबंध में जो निर्णय लिए गए थे उसके बारे में एक आधिकारिक तैयार करना, फाइनेंसियल मैकेनिज्म को तैयार करना था। उसी प्रसंग में जी०ई०

एफ० का सवाल उठा था, ग्लोबल एनवायरमेंटल फेसिलिटी का सवाल उठा था। मंत्री महोदय इस बात को अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि जी०ई०एफ. इस पर विश्व बैंक का कब्जा है और कहा यह गया कि विश्व बैंक इस बात की कोशिश करेगा कि जी०ई०एफ. के सदस्य संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के तमाम सम्मान्य सदस्य हों, वह उसका लक्ष्य बताया गया। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि भारत ने क्या इस तरह की मांग उठाई कि जी०ई०एफ. की सदस्यता, यूनिवर्सल मेबरशिप होनी चाहिए, सार्वजनिक सदस्यता होनी चाहिए, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के सब सदस्य को जी०ई०एफ. का सदस्य होना चाहिए? इसी के साथ ही मैं यह भी सवाल उठाना चाहती हूँ कि जी०ई०एफ. के ढाँचे का जनतांत्रिक करने का सवाल उठा था। उस जी०ई०एफ. के ढाँचे को जनतांत्रिक करने में भारत ने कौनसी भूमिका निभाई?

महोदय, मेरा तीसरा प्रश्न यह है कि पृथ्वी सम्मेलन में जो जैविक विविधता के संरक्षण, बायो डायवर्सिटी कन्वेंशन स्वीकार किया गया। उस कन्वेंशन से जीन बैंकों के प्रश्न को अलग कर दिया गया। मंत्री महोदय इस बात से अभिज्ञ होंगे कि जीन बैंकों को बायो डायवर्सिटी कन्वेंशन से अलग करके रखने का विकासशील देशों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा? क्योंकि जीन बैंक जितने हैं, उन पर पर ज्यादा अमरीका और विकसित देशों का कब्जा है और इसके चलते तमाम विकासशील देश, वे जो तमाम डवलप्ड जिंग्स हैं, उन्नत जीन हैं उनसे वंचित हो जाएंगे। तो मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि उन्होंने इस संबंध में क्या कोशिश की कि बायो डायवर्सिटी कन्वेंशन में जीन बैंकों के प्रश्न को शामिल किया जाए?

चौथा प्रश्न मैं यह पूछना चाहूंगी कि क्या यह सच है कि पृथ्वी सम्मेलन में ग्रीन-फण्ड तैयार करने का मुझाव आया था और विकासशील देशों ने उस मुझाव को उठाया था? फिर आखिर क्या कारण थे कि ग्रीन-फण्ड को तैयार करने का यह प्रस्ताव छोड़ दिया गया? धन्यवाद।

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH (Uttar Pradesh) : Madam Chairperson, the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests who led the Indian delegation to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development talked more of environment than development at the Rio Conference. Madam Chairperson, when you think of development, *its motto* means the development in the areas of agriculture and industry. Will the hon. Minister please clarify as to how he linked the development of agriculture and industry with environment in his presentation at this Conference? Has the hon. Minister, on his return, drawn up any action plan for India relating to linkage of environment and its aspects with agriculture and industry? If so, does the House know the details thereof? If not, what are the details thereof? Madam, my second question is : the tragedy of the Earth Summit is that the true sustainable development experts, the indigenous people have not been consulted on the drawing up of the action plan to implement Agenda 21. Indeed, most surprisingly, even the Government of India openly asks for more technological and monetary inputs from those countries who have destroyed the Earth. Sadly, one can, therefore, only expect the further perpetuation of our environmental ills as power-brokers continue to impose ill-advised "solutions" that are totally out of tune with the Earth's realities. Through you, Madam Vice-Chairperson, I would ask the hon. Minister to clarify and explain the ramifications thereof. The last question is, I would further ask the hon. Minister as to what are the specific and unique contributions that the Indian delegation to the RIO Conference has made. If so, will the hon. Minister kindly give us the details thereof? Has it made any impact on the developing countries and the developed countries? If so, please state in what manner and to what extent. Thank you.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal) : Madam, it is needless to say that India played an important role, a significant role, in the last Conference concerning environment. Being on this side of the House. I have no hesitation in applauding the role of my country particularly, of the Minister of State, who led the delegation, who actually paved the way for India playing a role. And the Prime Minister, at this speech, must be complimented. And I definitely compliment the role of the Indian delegation and the Minister of State and, here, I compliment our country's Prime Minister because India is the only country whose Prime Minister visited the People's Congress that took place there. There was another Congress which was going on in Rio and it is only the Indian Prime Minister who visited that Conference in appreciation of the non-Governmental initiative that was taken. Madam, on this question, I have a word of criticism on the statement that has been issued because Mr. Kamal Nath has not mentioned at all in his statement about the People's Congress that took place side by side. That should have been taken into consideration because the anti-pollution action plan can and should be supplemented by the people's initiative. My first question to the hon. Minister is this : The action plan to correct the imbalance of environment arising out of pollution is associated with the work of the developed countries. It is the developed countries that have contributed to a very great extent towards the pollution of this world. Therefore, naturally, the cost of repair and the cost of correction of imbalance should be borne by them proportionally to a greater degree. But America has not agreed to it. He had faced the entire world opinion but in a most arrogant way. The Bush Administration refused to bear the responsibility. Therefore, my first question is, if America agrees to fund it, that is one thing. If America does not agree to

it then what is going to happen? What is going to happen to our Action Plan if America does not agree? My second question is, supposing America does not agree, in what way are you going to fund it or don't you take up the anti-pollution drive? My third question is, in the background of the decisions taken in Rio what is the National Programme in the country? What exactly is India going to do, because the city life is getting polluted? Perhaps Delhi is the most polluted city in the country. Therefore, while fighting for the global programme what is our National Action Plan? That the Minister should kindly indicate. Fourthly I would like to know what the mechanism inside the country and outside is, because everyday while passing through the streets, you will find how it is polluted. There is nobody to look after. There is no mechanism to check pollution in the buses, private cars and all that. What is the international mechanism and national mechanism? In what way are we going to bring in the role of the States? How are the States going to be activated? If the States don't do anything, the Central Government cannot by itself do it. In what way is the Coordinated National Action Plan going to be undertaken?

Thank you, Madam.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पर्यावरण समस्या

पूरे विश्व की समस्या है और वन रक्षा भी पूरे विश्व के लोगों का दायित्व है। इसको दृष्टिगत रखते हुए विगत दिनों संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण एवं विकास सम्मेलन हुआ। वह अपने-आप में बहुत सार्थक और उपयोगी था। इसमें भारत की जो भूमिका रही, वह निसंदेह बहुत सराहनीय और अभिनंदनीय रही, यदि मैं यह कहूँ तो कोई अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगा कि इस सम्मेलन में हमारे जो पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्री हैं उसमें उनका जो योगदान रहा, उनकी जो भूमिका रही, वह अपने आप में न केवल सराहनीय है, बल्कि अविस्मरणीय हो गई है और एक ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेज बन गया है। इसके लिए आज भी सदन के अनेक सदस्यों ने उन्हें बधाई दी है, उसी श्रृंखला में कड़ी जोड़ते हुए मैं भी उनको बधाई देता हूँ।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहूँगा कि इस सम्मेलन में विशेष रूप से कई कामनाएँ रखीं रहे। तो जो सार्क कन्टीज के साथ वार्तालाप हुआ, उस वार्तालाप का क्या विवरण था और वन रक्षा के लिए इस सम्मेलन में जो बहुत लम्बा डिस्क्शन हुआ उसको क्या व्याख्या रही? साथ ही जो एजेंडा 21 था, उसके क्या फाइनैशियल इम्प्लीकेशन्स रहे? इसमें जो गैर-सरकारी संस्थाएँ थे, वह कौन-कौन थे? साथ ही जो राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने की बात कही गयी है, तो उसके लिए जो आफिस खोला जाएगा, वह कहाँ खोला जाएगा और पर्यावरण सुधार व प्रदूषण को रोकने के लिए जो चर्चा हुई, उसमें इंडस्ट्रियल इजेशन के साथ-साथ जो मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनीज का रोल रहता है, इस सम्मेलन में क्या उस पर भी चर्चा हुई? जो विकसित देश हैं उनके द्वारा पर्यावरण सुधार के लिए, प्रदूषण रोकने के लिए जो वित्तीय मदद देने की बात है विक

[श्री सुरेश पचीरी]

शील देशों को और अधिकसित देशों को, उसमें वे कौन-कौन से विकसित देश हैं जिन्होंने पूर्ण सहमति व्यक्त नहीं की, यह मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि जो ऐक्शन प्लान बना है उसका फॉलो-अप करने के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की गई? क्या उसमें यह भी तय किया गया कि एक वर्ल्ड ऐनवायरमेंट पॉलिसी डिक्लेयर की जाएगी और वह कब तक की जाएगी? साथ ही महसूसीकरण का एक कन्वेंशन करने की बात माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने बक्तव्य में कही है। तो यह कन्वेंशन कहा होगा, यह मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा।

अंत में मैं पुनः उनके सकल प्रयास और उनके रोल के लिए उनकी सराहना करता हूँ और उनका अभिनंदन करता हूँ।

SHRI JAGMOHAN (Nominated) : Madam: while I compliment the Prime Minister and the Minister of Environment and Forests for taking a correct stand. I would like to raise a few points.

Madam, is it not a fact that the Rio Declaration is couched in such general terms that nothing concrete is likely to emerge and nothing in essence has emerged from Stockholm, the much-trumpeted Conference of Stockholm? After twenty years of the Stockholm Conference, what has happened? Actually, more people are poor, more people are waterless, more people are living in slushy and Stinking slums and our cities are more polluted than before. What does it mean? What it means is that declarations do not mean anything. It means what the deeds are that are found subsequently and that is the basic issue which everybody seems to be forgetting.

Now take, for instance, the Habitat Conference which I myself attended as a member of the delegation in 1976. Mrs. Margaret Trudeaus took out of procession taking empty buckets, signifying that they were empty buckets and

water was the need of the human habitats, and it got worldwide publicity. But now you find more buckets are waterless than they were at that time.

The third point which I would like to state here is that the basic issue is one of resources, and sustainable development is not possible if there is an inequitable distribution of wealth in the world. You see, 82.7 per cent of the world's resources have been concerned by a small microscopic minority, about 19 per cent of the world population, and 20 per cent of the world population has only 1.5 per cent of the resources of the world at its disposal and the richest one billion are 150 times more than the poorest one billion people. So, in such a state, nothing can really be done. Then, as you know, the issue is who is going to monitor whatever little funds are being made available through the Global Environment Conference or whatever it is. It is the World Bank, the UNEP, UNDP, etc. Somebody was remarked very clearly that it is just like putting a fox in charge of a hen house! The World Bank will advocate a policy of structural adjustment and they will take by trade what they will give by this method. And, what is this 1.5 billion provided by the Bank and a few more billion promised by the United States or in the Forestry Declaration and other Declarations which have been made? When you take by trade 50 billion, it means that much goes every year from the poor countries to the rich. So, in essence, what will happen is that you will not get any substantial fund to solve the fundamental problems of development and removal of poverty, and sectionable development is, not possible at all as the last twenty years' experience has shown us.

Today, in Delhi and Bombay, more populations are living in slushy and stinking slums and the conditions in the rural areas

are much worse. In every developed country, more are landless and more are living in substandard conditions. So, the basic issue is of the lifestyle of the people in the West and unless that is changed, unless a new motivation comes, no real development is possible. I have some other points to make. Since the bell is rung, I will keep quiet. Thank you, very much.

**SHRI SOM PAL** (Uttar Pradesh) : Madam, Vice-Chairperson, our concern for conservation of environment and strategy for sustainable development was best summed up by Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, when she participated in the Stockholm Conference of 1972, exactly two decades before the present Rio Conference. The phrase uttered by her--"poverty is the biggest polluter"-- has since become historic, and this clearly sums up the theme of the whole exercise.

Madam, this time we participated in the Rio Conference in a big way. Our hon. Prime Minister was there, two of our Ministers including hon. Shri Kamal Nathji, and a large contingent of experts and bureaucrats was there. All the issues concerning environment and sustainable development now have crystallized. And it has been established beyond controversy that development can not be sustained without conservation of environment, and environment cannot be conserved without going through the process of development, that is, without removing poverty. And these are two descriptions of the same process, and now everybody agrees that the very existence of life on this planet is dependent on this process. This is a question of equitable distribution and sharing of natural resources not only amongst the peoples of the present generation living on this planet, but also amongst the generations which are to come in future. It is good that we took it up so seriously and participated

at this level. But the question is: What have we returned with? And what strategy have we set for ourselves back home? Have we chalked out any programme in some time-frame and in some quantified terms? The statement of Shri Kamal Nathji, in para 3 speaks of conservation of tradition in our country. No doubt, our tradition has been very rich and time-proven. But what are we doing to conserve it? And it is on this aspect that I would like to see certain clarifications from the hon. Minister.

**Number 1** : He talks of our bio-diversity which is vanishing in a big way. Numerous plants and animal species are getting extinct every year. These species, particularly, the plant species have survived in their natural environment through millions of years, and they are vital to all our programmes of varietal research in agriculture, livestock and poultry development and horticulture development. This bio-diversity has been plundered in a big way by the so-called developed countries, particularly the USA. And all their research programmes on agricultural development and other development are based on these bio-diverse resources plundered from our nation, for which the Danks are now claiming royalty from developing countries. Have we raise the issue of claiming royalty for this loot by these developed countries? I have not seen a single sentence about that in this whole statement. And what is the programme that we have launched in our own nation for conserving this immense bio-diversity, all our medicinal plants, all our natural plants which are vital for research as I have already said for varietal improvement of crops and horticultural crops? And they are vanishing and we have not launched

[Shri Som Pal]

upon any programme for cataloguing them, enumerating them, categorising them or conserving them in their natural environment. And we have just now set up a Gene Bank at the national level which is a very small measure, and I don't think it is going to help in a big way. This is the foremost question.

Secondly, all our traditional medicinal systems are being allowed to become extinct. Most of these are dependent on vegetation and plants. All our herbs with medicinal value are being plundered indiscriminately even now. All the Himalayas are being denuded of these plants. Have we any programme for conserving or resurrecting the old medicinal system? Recently I came across a news item in the *Economic Times* saying that Germans have conducted a very intense and large-scale research and have identified about 138 uses of our Nim which in botanical parlance is known as *Melia Indica*, in medicine, in crop fertilizing and pest control and insects control. But all these things we wish to learn through the West. All our literature is replete with this information but we are caring the least to make use of this.

Thirdly I see no programme for encouraging the use of natural compost and pest control methods and educating the farmers about it. My information is that our nation has 65 million tonnes of biodegradable material which can be used for increasing productivity and keeping fertility of the soil intact but hardly 26 million tonnes of this material is being used and 39 million tonnes is allowed to be wasted. Similarly urban waste is 16 million tonnes add hardly 6 million tonnes of it is being used. The rest is allowed to pollute our lifeline rivers.

Para 6 of the hon. Minister's statement says that there are sectoral issues. He has enumerated seven out of which I will take

up only four. First he talks of land resource. We still have 44 million hectares of land which can be brought under cultivation or under green cover which is not being done. Under the hon. Minister himself, the Wasteland Development Board was created in 1978 and the Minister is on record to have said in Malaysia that he has already identified, I think 15.5 or 19 million hectares which can be brought under green cover. For the last 14 years we have not chalked out any plan to make use of this valuable resource and we say that we do not have any land to fall back upon for green cover or for agriculture. This constitutes about 32 to 33 per cent of the total cultivated land in our country. Then, we have no plans for allotting this land and we say the biggest problem our nation is facing is unemployment and starvation and this 44 million hectares of land is allowed to be denuded of its fertility through soil run-off and flash flood. We have no programme for soil conservation at the national level. We have no programme of water-shed management which is not only vital for irrigation for drinking water but also for recharging the ground water which is depleting at a very fast rate and large areas are being declared as dark and grey blocks, and desertification is taking place. Similarly for desert reclamation we have no national policy so far. We have no policy for use of ground water. We have no policy for contouring and bunding land and stopping the soil run-off. We are maintaining an army to save our horizontal land, spending so heavily on defence but for vertical soil run-off which is taking place at the rate of millions and billions of tonnes every year, we are caring the least. (*Time bell rings*)

I will take a minute only. I have only 2-3 points more. We are spending so heavily on dams, on major and medium irrigation works. For creating an additional hectare potential for irrigation we have to spend Rs. 35,000 plus while on minor irrigation



and water-shed management, we can do it within Rs. 6000/-, that is, with this programme and with the same investment we can create five times the irrigation potential which we are doing with these big dams and medium irrigation projects. Similarly, the age-old resource of ponds and *talabs*, which were there in the villages and which are essential for recharging the ground water and for other purposes, is becoming extinct. We have no legislation to stop the extinction of this resource.

Lastly, the hon. Minister talks about toxic elements. Madam, there are about two-three dozen toxic pesticides and insecticides which have been banned for decades in the developed countries, but which are still being used in our country. They will kill the valuable pests and insects which are vital for cross-pollination and for maintaining the fertility of the soil. We do not have any policy. We have got substitutes in our traditional system which we are not ready to fall back upon.

Then, there is indiscriminate use of chemical fertilisers, when we can use our biodegradable materials which can help in increasing the fertility of the soil. If we do not do that, we are heading towards a total desertification within a few decades. I would like the hon. Minister to throw light on all these points.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN):** Before I call the last speaker I would like to point out to the hon. Members that the hon. Minister of State for Finance is here to answer clarifications on the statement which he made yesterday. But it is going to be 6 o'clock. I suggest to the Members that this can be put off till Monday. Now, he has to lay some papers on the Table of the House. He has to lay the same thing on the Table of the other House also. Therefore let him lay them now.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*contd.*

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)

**SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR :**

Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), together with Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:—

- (i) No. 79/92-Central Excises, dated the 31st July, 1992, amending Notification No. 31/88-Central Excises dated the 1st March, 1988, so as to exempt Rifampicin from excise duty. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2397/92]
- (ii) No. 80/92-Central Excises, dated the 31st July, 1992, exempting three specified drug intermediates used in the manufacture of Rifampicin from excise duty. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2381/92]
- (iii) No. 249/92-Customs, dated the 31st July, 1992, amending Notification No. 64/79-Customs dated the (1st) march, 1969, so as to delete certain entries as a consequential change. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2399/92]
- (iv) No. 250/92-Customs, dated the 31st July, 1992, exempting from custom duty specified drug intermediates. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2400/92]
- (v) No. 251/92-Customs, dated the 31st July, 1992, prescribing a basic customs duty of 10 on specified drug intermediates for manufacture of Rifampicin. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2401/92]
- (vi) No. 252/92-Customs, dated the 31st July, 1992, amending certain notifications, *inter-alia*, so as to impose a basic custom