

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP-TULLA: You know which side I am on. I am on the Government side, not on the Opposition side.

Sir, the answer which the hon. Minister gave is, to some extent, heartening, but there was a very unfortunate news which I read recently in the newspapers. The Wakf Board have denied that they have any provision for giving maintenance to the divorced Muslim women. On the floor of the House, we had given some assurance to the destitute women divorcees that if nobody gives them maintenance, then the Wakf Board will give. Though I appreciate the concern that the Government is having about women and the concern of the Member who asked this question about relaxing age limit for women for employment, I also feel, as the Prime Minister is here who is very much concerned about women's development, the Government should find some measures to give meaningful employment to all the destitute women, not only in the Government service but some kind of meaningful occupation for all the destitute women whether they are Muslim women or Hindu women or any other. I direct this question humbly to the hon. Prime Minister to answer.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I entirely share the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP-TULLA: This is not the answer. There is no assurance. Sharing the concern is no answer. It is unfortunate. Whenever I ask a question about women, either the Members laugh it out or a calous answer is given. I am very sorry.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I support her one hundred per cent.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I also entirely support the hon. Member in her criticism that whenever she asks a question about women, they laugh at her. (Interruptions).

SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ: Mr. Swamy must know that she does not need his support. She can support him. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Question No. 124.

कुमारी सईदा खातून : यह महिलाओं के लिए बरखन है और मैंने भी हाथ उठाया था इसलिए मुझको भी मौका दिया जाए ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have already spent enough time on it.

कुमारी सईदा खातून : सर मैं भी बोलना चाहती हूँ ।

MR. CHAIRMAN I have called another question.

Delay in completion of the Sutlej Yamuna link Canal

*124. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:†
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) when was the decision to construct inter-link canal between the Nangal Hydel Channel and the Sutlej-Yamuna link first taken and what was the time schedule for the completion of the project;

(b) what are the reasons for the inordinate delay in the completion of the link canal and what steps are being taken to expedite the completion of the project; and

(c) what is the estimated cost escalation as a result of delay and by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Virendra Verma.

decision to construct the inter-link channel between Nangal Hydel Channel and the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal requires agreement between party States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. According to Punjab, the completion of the inter-link regulator complex will take about 18 months.

Since work on the link canal can be taken up only after the inter-State issues have been resolved, the question of delay or cost escalation does not arise.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : सभापति जी, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 10 जनवरी, 1983 को केन्द्रीय सिंचाई मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में गठित कमिटी ने इस प्रोजेक्ट को इस प्रोजेक्ट को स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी थी और उसके बाद अमृतसर रिसर्च स्टेशन तथा पुणे का सेंट्रल वाटर पावर रिसर्च स्टेशन ने भी इस प्रोजेक्ट को साऊंड बनाया था, साथ ही भाकड़ा-ब्यास मैनेजमेंट बोर्ड ने भी इसको स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी थी और उसके बाद मान्यवर, इसी में जो अमृतसर के रिसर्च स्टेशन और रिसर्च एक्सपर्ट्स और जो पंजाब, हरियाणा और राजस्थान के एक्सपर्ट्स थे उन्होंने भी इसको स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी थी, तब जब सब तरफ से स्वीकृति हो गई, भारत सरकार की भी हो गई, सेंट्रल वाटर पावर कमिशन की भी हो गई जो कि पुणे का था इन सब के होते हुये भी इसके निर्माण में क्या कठिनाइयाँ हैं इन पर प्रकाश डालने की कृपा करेंगे कि जबकि साढ़े पांच वर्ष इसको हो चुके हैं ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The hon. Member is right that this question has been discussed at various levels. Even the Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune has also prepared models. But according to the Bhakra-Nangal Agreement, which was arrived at in 1959, Clause 13, the States have to agree. And the agreement has not yet been reached.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, मैंने तो यह बताया कि, Research Station, Amritsar and later the Central Water and Power Re-

search Station at Pune and experts from Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan found the project sound. Then what is the difficulty? All the experts from the three State Governments and the Central Government found it sound in all respects. Then, why there is delay? They are all agreeing for the proposal. But the Minister is not forthcoming with an answer.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, with a view to utilise the spare capacity of the Nangal hydel channel and the SYL for generation of hydro power at phase-I with an installed capacity of 36 MW, an inter-link channel and feeder channel are proposed to be undertaken. The diversion of water is there for the purpose of this power house. Perhaps, the proposal has been brought forward by Punjab in 1982. This water, which is going to be diverted from the N.H.C., the States of Rajasthan and Haryana were not agreeing though it has been found that they will not be losers if this channels are constructed. But still the States have not been able to come to an agreement. Only recently, Sir, the Secretary, Water Resources had a meeting with these people; he is the Chairman of the Review Committee. It has now been sent to the Central Government by the BBMB and we hope to have an agreement very soon.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, मेरा सैकेण्ड सप्लीमेंटरी है, क्या माननीय मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जैसा उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि—

"Since work on the link canal can be taken up only after the inter-State issues have been resolved, the question of delay on cost escalation does not arise."

सन् 1982 में आपने बताया कि पंजाब सरकार ने स्वीकृति दी थी, सन् 1983 में सबने इसको स्वीकार किया है और आप वह कह रहे हैं कि कोस्ट-एसकेशन नहीं बढ़ेगा। तो सन् 1983 में जो कोस्ट थी

इसकी, अब साढ़े पांच साल हो गये हैं तो निश्चित ही बढ़ेगा और आपने कहा कि नहीं बढ़ेगा। तो जरा इसका कारण बताने की कृपा करें। दूसरा, मान्यवर यह कि आपकी कृपा से, आपकी कोशिश से प्रदेश के हित में, तीनों प्रदेशों के हित में इस योजना को जल्दी से जल्दी कब तक कार्यान्वित कराने का आप प्रयास करेंगे। . . . (व्यवधान) . . . मान्यवर, यह मेरा प्रश्न मंत्री जी ने नहीं सुना क्योंकि प्रधानमंत्री जी से बात, कर रहे थे। पहला तो कोस्ट-एसक्लेशन पर बता दीजियेगा और दूसरा, तीनों स्टेट्स के हित में कब तक जल्दी से जल्दी इस योजना को आप स्वीकृति प्रदान करने, कराने का प्रयास करेंगे और इसको चालू करने की कोशिश करेंगे ?

श्री बी० शंकरानन्द : यह तीनों स्टेट्स के हित में है कि तीनों एग्री करें और तीनों के एग्री किये बिना . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : आप कराने की कोशिश करें ?

श्री बी० शंकरानन्द : हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : कब तक ?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, it was partly linked with the Punjab Accord. We have found it very difficult since the new, well, not new but the current Chief Minister of Haryana, rejected the Punjab Accord. We have not been able to move ahead. We would look forward to getting some specific suggestion on what he feels as a solution to the problem.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, प्रधानमंत्री जी से संबंधित है, यह 20 जून, 1987 को वर्तमान मुख्यमंत्री आये हैं और आपका जो एकोर्ड हुआ था, वह 24 जुलाई, 1985 को हुआ, जिसके अनुसार 15 अगस्त, 1986 तक यह कंपलीट हो जानी चाहिये थी यानी एक साल पहले कंपलीट हो जानी चाहिये थी अब जरा बतायें कहां मुख्यमंत्री बीच में पिक्चर में आते हैं ? वह तो आप के एकोर्ड के लागू होने के एक वर्ष बाद आये हैं ।

श्री राम श्रवधेश सिंह : प्रधानमंत्री जी, इस पर बोलिये न ?

श्री समापति : पंजाब-सिचुएशन बताया न ।

श्री राम श्रवधेश सिंह : नहीं गलत जवाब दिया है ।

श्री राजीव गांधी : एस वाई०एल० जब बन रही थी,अभी भी बन रही है, लेकिन एस०वाई०एल० का जो बेसिस था, वह पंजाब एकोर्ड में था। जैसे ही हरियाणा के मुख्यमंत्री जी ने उसे रिजेक्ट कर दिया, अब बड़ी मुश्किल है उस बेसिस को लागू करने के लिये। तो मैं चाहूंगा कि हरियाणा के मुख्यमंत्री जी एक अल्टरनेटिव प्रपोजल हमारे सामने रखें, पंजाब की सरकार के सामने रखें और फिर हम उसे देख सकेंगे ।

श्री समापति : प्रश्न काल समाप्त ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Privatisation of T.V. glass shell project at Taloja in Maharashtra

*125. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to privatise the T.V. glass shell project at Taloja in Maharashtra established by the Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) is being considered by the Central Government;

(b) whether BEL is under pressure to turn the glass shell plant into joint venture while retaining a minority share, alongwith a private party and a foreign company; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the need for such a move for privatisation?