

areas. Now, 25 years after 1960, and these areas are still in an extremely poor condition. Last year there was total drought in these areas. May I know from the hon. Minister what they have done in the last 25 years to provide irrigation facilities or water facilities from any water channel so as to obviate the difficulties created by the drought?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the Government has done maximum for providing water to the farmers through irrigation facilities created by the Irrigation Ministry; and this is not sufficient. Therefore, the Government has created the Ministry of Water Resources which is looking into the integrated use of water resources which are available in the country.

So far as Haryana is concerned, Haryana has nine blocks which are covered under DPAP and under Desert Development Programme there are 26 blocks which are covered. So those districts and blocks which are affected by desert and which are prone to drought are already covered under this programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

New Irrigation Projects

*22. **SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:**†

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre has taken a decision not to clear any new irrigation project unless it had a drinking water component pending the formulation of the National Water Resources Policy; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) what are the details of the major and minor irrigation projects which have been kept in abeyance or rejected, State-wise;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to clear these projects;

(d) what is the gap in the irrigation potential and its utilization in the country and what are the reasons therefor;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Raoof Valiullah.

(e) whether Government have issued any guidelines in this direction; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Inclusion of drinking water supply component in irrigation and multipurpose projects is being emphasised. No major or medium irrigation project has been kept in abeyance or rejected for non-fulfilment of this condition. Minor schemes are not referred to the Centre for clearance.

(d) At the end of the Sixth Plan period, the gap in the utilisation of irrigation potential created was about 7.5 million ha. The main reasons therefor are, among others, inadequate infrastructure and lack of extension facilities, inefficient distribution of water, change in cropping pattern involving high water consumption, inadequate supply of power and over reporting of the potential in some cases.

(e) and (f) The State Governments have been urged to provide necessary infrastructure facilities and also to take up adaptive trials to demonstrate the correct cropping sequence, cropping varieties etc.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sardar Sarovar Project on the River Narmada is one of the biggest irrigation projects the world, funded by the World Bank. The World Bank has already released huge funds. A survey report has been prepared by the Government of Gujarat with regard to rehabilitation of people in the submerged areas. Sir, according to the report, there will be no water-logging and drainage problems because as per the advice of the Prime Minister, it has been designed block by block. I understand the project has been kept in abeyance for want of environmental clearance. Sir, the World Bank has stricter norms for environmental clearance than probably the Government of India. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister as to what action has been taken so far and whether the Government would go in for selective funding of the major multi-purpose projects in the country, particularly when detailed reports have been prepared

and submitted to the Government of India block by block. I understand the Government of Gujarat has submitted report on Narmada and Mahi, that is, the first phase....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will exhaust both your supplementaries.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: No, Sir, I have enough of them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are exceeding the time limit.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: So, I would like to know whether environmental clearance has been given, and if not why.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The supplementary does not at all concern the main question. The main question refers to the non-clearance of new irrigation projects for want of drinking water components in the project. That is the main question, and whether any project's clearance has been held up because drinking water supply component has not been included in the project. Then the main question further says about the gap in irrigation potential and its utilisation. Though the hon. Member has not at all asked anything with reference to the main question, still I may say that he has referred to Sardar Sarovar project and its sanction by the World Bank. Its clearance with regard to the environmental aspect and forest clearance are necessarily factors which are receiving the attention of the Government.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, in part (d), (e) and (f) of the answer, it has been stated that there are several reasons for the gap in the utilisation of the irrigation potential. Sir, at present, I think, only 30 per cent is utilised and by investment, that is selective funding and investment, it can reach up to 80 per cent.

This is the finding of the survey report by several voluntary and Government agencies. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is in a position to know the estimated ground water potential as a result of augmentation in surface water through canals and reservoirs and by when a com-

prehensive water resources policy will be formulated taking into consideration this aspect?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, it is true, a national water policy is being evolved and the matter is under serious consideration. As the House is aware, the National Water Resources Council met last year, in 1985, in October, under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. All the Chief Ministers of the States and Union Territories are Members of this Council. They have formed a sub-group and this sub-group has almost finalised the draft. This is going to be discussed in the next meeting which I have called for the 28th of this month.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chandra Gowada. He is not here. Dr. Mahishi.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, the hon. Minister was kind enough to answer in part (d) of the question that there is over-utilisation of water in some places and inadequate supply of electricity in some other places; and, therefore, there is a big gap between the utilisation and the available irrigation potential. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of the fact that geologists have warned the Government that water resources will dry up by 2,000 A. D.—whether the Government have taken any precautionary steps to see that water management and water utilisation is properly attended to? Now, on account of traditional irrigation which is followed in the country, one-third goes out by seepage, one-third is wasted in water-logging and only the remaining is being utilised. Only those civil engineers who have undergone the usual routine course in civil engineering are looking after water management and water utilisation. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is thinking of resorting to sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation instead of the traditional methods of utilisation of water?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the Ground Water Development Agency is taking all the steps in this regard. The main purpose is, how to cut the gap between the potential created and the amount

of water utilised. There are various reasons why there is gap in the utilisation. I should say, it is not that the potential which is created is mainly utilised by the farmers. There are various factors which are required to put this potential to use, to practical use. In regard to the hon. Member's suggestion about sprinkler irrigation, as a matter of fact, sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation can be safely resorted to in the difficult terrain where field channels are difficult and Government is stressing and emphasising this utilisation.

श्रीमती शान्ती पहाड़िया : श्रीमन्, मंत्री जी जानते हैं कि राजस्थान में हमेशा सूखा पड़ता है। मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि वहाँ पर इसके लिए कितनी राशि दी जाती है क्योंकि खासतौर पर हमारे अलवर, भरतपुर और सबाई माधोपुर के साथ दुर्व्यवहार होता आया है ? हालांकि सूखा सारे राजस्थान में पड़ता है, लेकिन पश्चिमी राजस्थान में यह सबसे ज्यादा पड़ता है। हमारे यहां सूखा हमेशा रहता है। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि राजस्थान के बारे में क्या आपने कुछ सोचा है कि उसको कितनी राशि दी जाय ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the hon. Member has asked about the assistance from the Centre for the drought relief operations in Rajasthan. The Prime Minister has already visited the drought-affected areas of Rajasthan and steps have been taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Smt. Renuka Chowdhury. It is all ladies' day.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Thank you, you are partial to women. I want to know if the National Water Resources Policy has even considered desalination of sea water. How long are we going to resort to and depend on natural rain water. Why have we not considered scientific technology and indigenous

manufacture of desalination plants? There are other countries in the world which are using this technology and there is ample sea water resource available in our country.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The hon. lady Member's question is a suggestion for action.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I have asked, why have you not considered it?

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, I do not want an answer of the type that he has given to the question of Shri Raoof Valiullah. In reply to his question he has said that this is not related to the main question although the question related to the part (b) of the main question, that is, what are the details of the major and minor irrigation projects which have been kept in abeyance or rejected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why I remained silent.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: My question relates to part (d) of the main question, that is, what is the gap in the irrigation potential and its utilization in the country and what are the reasons therefor.

I would specifically like to draw his attention to this part of the question. There are two senses in which irrigation potential is understood. One is the ultimate potential available in the country and the other is, how much of irrigation potential we have actually created and what is the gap between the two. That is what I want to understand.

Apart from that, he has perhaps given the figures for actually created potential and its utilization. I am going a little beyond that. If he has got the figures, let him answer part (b) of my question. Is he aware that the same figure was given for irrigation potential created and its utilization for the minor irrigation area? Is he aware that the same figure quoted for the potential and utilization is totally false because plenty of tubewells are not at all in operation?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your word 'false' can be objected to. You can say, 'not correct' but not 'false'.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: That is all right. The Minister can be false but the figure is not correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister, do you want to answer that point?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, you have already answered the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot answer from this place. Therefore, you have to answer.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: What is the answer? He betrays his ignorance. Is he aware of this fact? Let him say 'yes' or 'no'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: What is 'all right'? Is his ignorance 'all right'?

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Is it that? Do we take it that he is ignorant of the facts?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am not ignorant about the ignorance of the Parliament Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a good policy to say something.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: If I can add, the minor irrigation with reference to requirement is dependent on the power supply.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इरीगेशन पोर्टेबिलिटी और यूमिलाइजेशन के बीज में जो गैप होता है, जिन कारणों से यूमिलाइजेशन नहीं हो पाता है, उसकी ओर क्या सरकार का ध्यान गया है? मैं देखता हूँ कि हमारे यहाँ दो बड़े इरीगेशन प्रोजेक्ट्स, दुर्गावती प्लांट और गान माडगाइजेशन स्कीम चल रही है और दुर्गावती प्लांट, जो इरीगेशन प्रोजेक्ट है वह 60 करोड़ से शुरू हुआ और आज वह करीब-करीब 100 करोड़ से ज्यादा का हो गया है। लेकिन हर बार यह लोग पैसा देते हैं दो करोड़, तीन करोड़ देते हैं, इस तरह से सारा खर्च हो जाता है स्टाफ की

पेमेंट पर। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार के दिमाग में यह बात है कि इसी ढंग से ही दुर्गावती प्रोजेक्ट को क्रियान्वित कराएँ या पर्याप्त फण्ड दे कर के पूरा कराएँगे या हर साल स्टाफ को लूटने और खाने के लिए दो चार करोड़ देते रहेंगे?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, I can say that the irrigation projects are planned, formulated, funded and implemented by the States and the hon. Member's suggestion is really a suggestion for action by the State Government.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : यह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का जरूर है लेकिन भारत सरकार के द्वारा वह अस्मिटेड है। तो क्या भारत सरकार इसी ढंग से फण्ड देगी। (अवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I have called Shri Chaturanan Mishra. Please sit down. I have not allowed you. Now Shri Chaturanan Mishra.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : मान्यवर, मेरा प्रश्न बिहार की पोर्टेबिलिटी आफ इरीगेशन के संबंध में है। मेरा राज्य ऐसा राज्य है जिसके लिए चाहे राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर हो या राज्य स्तर पर हो हमारे राज्य का सिंचाई मंत्री मिस्टर मानसून है। इसलिए दोनों हमारे मंत्री मानसून हैं। अगर मानसून समय पर आ जाए तो ठीक है लेकिन नहीं आए तो न तो शंकरानंद जी कुछ कर सकते हैं। और न आनन्द कुछ कर सकते हैं। तो उसकी पोर्टेबिलिटी के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहाँ उत्तर बिहार में ज्यादातर नदियाँ नेपाल से आती हैं। आज 36, 37 वर्ष से ज्यादा हो गये हैं अभी तक भारत सरकार ने नेपाल से ऐसा रास्ता नहीं निकाला कि हमारे राज्य की तरबादी या सूखाड़ की समस्या का निराकरण हो सके। अब आपको और कितना दीर्घकालीन समय और चाहिये इस समस्या के निदान के लिए। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री जी इसके बारे में कुछ बताएँ।

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the hon. Member has asked about the irrigation potential created, potential that is in the process of being created and he has hinted that it can only depend on the co-operation of Nepal which is not correct. We have created enough irrigation potential in Bihar and Bihar is one of the States which has used the highest irrigation potential which has been created.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, I seek your protection. I have asked about rivers flowing from Nepal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am asking it. He has asked about rivers flowing from Nepal and whether anything is being done. That is the question.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the rivers that are coming from Nepal are not only with reference to Bihar but other States also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got any plans or schemes?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: We have a scheme, in order to have reservoir storage built in Nepal so as to have flood control in Bihar and this project has also got irrigation potential.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Lakshman. Now you have got some answer. Earlier you would have got nothing.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether in taking the decision that the irrigation project's drinking water component would have to be cleared until the water resources policy is formulated, the thinking is to provide water for those villages and areas which are within the command area or those areas also which are outside the command area but which need potential water as drinking water. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister what exactly he has in his mind or what is in the mind of the Government in formulating a policy of this nature?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, I can inform the House that this year we had held regional meetings in the country—we had five regional meetings and covered the entire regions of the country with all the State and Union territory Irrigation Ministers—and it was the unanimous view of all of them that there should be drinking water supply com-

ponent in irrigation projects and that it should be made applicable for the concerned area and projects should not be cleared till this component is not there.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister has given so many replies but the main question which was asked—about projects which are pending clearance—was not clearly replied to. For example, in Andhra Pradesh there are four important projects, namely, Telugu Ganga—which is a drinking water project in addition to irrigation—then the Polavaram project, the Vamsadhara project and the Yeleru project. These are the four important projects which are pending clearance from the Central Government. A deputation has been sent to the Central Government. As a matter of fact, all our MPs met the Prime and also the Irrigation Minister. Our Chief Minister, Mr. N. T. Rama Rao, also has met the Prime Minister and impressed upon the Central Government the need for early clearance of these projects. So far, every time the answer has been, "It is under consideration." These four are very important projects. As a matter of fact we want that all the States should be developed, all the project areas should be prosperous and the drinking water should be provided to Madras city apart from irrigating Ravalaseema which is a drought-affected area. So, I would like to know from the Minister as to how much more time it will take for the clearance of these projects.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, we will not take a minute more once the requirements are fulfilled by the State Government with reference to clearance of the projects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question—No. 23. Mr. Sambasiva Rao.... Absent.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: He is very much there. He is never present. For the first time he is present.

Integrated fisheries policy

*23. **SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate an integrated fisheries policy; and