

and the functions relating to them should be given publicity. He expressed such a desire. Will the Minister give some assurance that such functions should be publicized properly, so that our posterity knows who they are?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Actually, in keeping with Government's intention, these functions of our freedom fighters are given due publicity. The Masterda Surya Sen function was properly covered and fully covered both on the AIR and in Doordarshan. And it is our policy that all such functions, particularly dealing with our great freedom fighters will be fully covered and given due representation on the radio as well as in Doordarshan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think after this assurance, we will go on to Question No. 189.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I would... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, you will not be forgotten. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I am not bothered about it at the moment. I wanted to ask something else.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You really wanted to ask something?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Now it is all right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, Mr. Mondal. Question No. 189.

Rural Electrification in West Bengal

◆189. SHRI AHMAD HOSSAIN
MONDAL: f

SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th April, 1981 and state:

(a) the number of Harijan Bastis and localities in West Bengal where streetlights have been provided and are likely to be provided during 1979-80, 1980-81 and in 1981-82;

(b) the amount spent so far and is likely to be spent for those works; and

(c) whether any review of the functioning of these projects has been made and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The formulation and implementation of rural electrification schemes, including extension of street lights to the Harijan Bastis in West Bengal, are the responsibility of the West Bengal State Electricity Board/local bodies. According to the progress report received from the Electricity Board, street lights have been extended to 115 Harijan Bastis up to 31-3-1980. One more Harijan Basti has been electrified during 1980-81. The West Bengal State Electricity Board proposes to electrify 100 additional Harijan Bastis during the year 1981-82.

(b) Under the special programme of rural electrification for providing street lights to the left-out Harijan Bastis, the Rural Electrification Corporation had sanctioned Rs. 11.8 lakhs covering 186 Harijan Bastis in West Bengal, out of which 116 Harijan Bastis have only been reported to have been provided with street lights.

(c) Rural Electrification Corporation has been carrying out periodic monitoring of implementation of the rural electrification schemes financed by it. It is observed that in many cases, the progress in execution of projects is not according to schedule. The matter has been taken up with the State Electricity Board.

SHRI AHMAD HOSSAIN MONDAL: My question was, how many Harijan Bastis in West Bengal are

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ahmad Hossain Mondal.

provided with street lights during the year 1978-79 and 1980-81, and how many will be provided with street lights in 1981-82? It has not been answered—the second part.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: In the main answer I have stated that during 1980-81 only one Harijan Basti has been electrified in West Bengal. So far as street-lighting is concerned, we have been asking the State Government to give us the information. Now, the only information given to us was that Rs. 11.8 lakhs were sanctioned in the Fourth Five Year Plan for the electrification of 186 Harijan Bastis, out of which so far they have electrified 116. This I have already said.

SHRI AHMAD HOSSAIN MONDAL: Will the hon. Minister send a reminder to the West Bengal Government so that they expedite the matter? Otherwise they won't know.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Sir, I have already said that we are monitoring the implementation of the rural electrification schemes, and we have taken up the matter with the State Electricity Board. And according to the suggestion which the hon. Member has given, I assure you that we will again take it up.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: There is a tendency and there are complaints sometimes that Harijan bastis are left out when a village is electrified. Some years ago, the Central Government decided that no scheme would be sanctioned under the Rural Electrification Scheme which does not cover Harijan bastis in a village for electrification. How is that scheme implemented and what are the reports of the Government with regard to the implementation of that scheme? There is the R.E.C. which is under the Central Government. Will the Government issue a directive to the State Governments also saying that if a village is electrified by the Government, they must see to it that the Harijan Bastis and the tribal areas are also included in that scheme?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: As the hon. Member said, earlier it was the practice that when they were electrifying the main villages, they would leave out the Harijan Bastis. But the Government has taken a stand now that no village will be electrified unless the adjoining Harijan basti is also electrified. This matter was specifically taken up when we had a Conference and now a Resolution has been passed that while providing for the electrification of the main village, the adjoining Harijan bastis should be covered. Similarly, we have gone further in the Sixth Plan and we have provided 33 crores of rupees for providing street lights to left-out Harijan bastis and for promoting rural electrification.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: I know that the R.E.C. at the Centre has taken that decision. Some of the State Governments have this provision and some of the State Governments don't.

I was making a suggestion that the Government will ensure that the State Governments make sure that they take up the Harijan Bastis also along with the Rural Electrification Programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it has been answered.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: This is in regard to the R.E.C. Many have agreed to this idea. I was suggesting that it should be followed up.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: We have given the direction to the States and if they are not following, we will again pursue it.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is fact or not that the State Governments are sleeping over this matter for the last so many years. In spite of the fact that the Government of India wants it, why have these Harijan bastis not been electrified so far? No reply is coming from the State Government. I would like to know what action the Central

Government is contemplating in this matter.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: I must say that it is true that this was the position earlier. But the present Government is committed to the up-liftment of the Harijan and other backward communities. We have made a specific provision in the Sixth Plan making available funds for the left-out Harijan bastis and other backward communities. I hope that in view of the Government's strong stand, all the Harijan baatis will be covered.

श्री हरि सिंह नलवा : सभापति महोदय, हरिजनों की बस्तियों का इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन करना यह बहुत अच्छा काम है। सरकार का हर आदमी, हर पोलिटिकल पार्टी इसका स्वागत करेगी। लेकिन मैं सरकार से एक चीज जानना चाहता हूँ देहात के अन्दर जो देहात में इंडस्ट्री लगती है उसमें तो बिजली है ही नहीं। किसान अपनी फसल को काट रहा है। किसान के लिए बिजली पूरी नहीं है। किसान के लिए कांटोन्यूअस सप्लाई नहीं है। किसान की खेतों में जो पैदावार होती है, सारे देहात के हरिजनों का जीवन निर्वाह उसी खेतों के ऊपर है। पहले तो पेट भरने को चाहिए, बाद में इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन चाहिये। इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन हो भा जाए तो क्या उसमें कांटोन्यूअस बिजली देने का मंत्री जो एक्स्पेंस हाउस को देंगे? साथ ही देहात के अन्दर जो इंडस्ट्रीज लगी है या उनको भी कांटोन्यूअस बिजली सप्लाई देने का एक्स्पेंस देंगे?

श्री सभापति : इरादा तो वही होगा। दिल्ली में भी कांटोन्यूअस सप्लाई का इरादा है लेकिन कभी कभी टूट जाती है सप्लाई।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : इरादा तो बहुत अच्छा है लेकिन (व्यवधान)

श्री विक्रम महाजन : जहाँ तक देहातों को बिजली का ताल्लुक है भारत सरकार की नीति है एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर को बिजली पूरी दी जाये। इस प्रोग्राम के तहत हर स्टेट का कहा

गया है कि कम से कम 6 से 8 घंटे वे बिजली देहातों को दें जिससे उनकी मांग पूरी हो। और इस प्रोग्राम के तहत आपने देखा कि सरकार की नीति को वजह से और भगवान की मेहरबानी होने की वजह से हिन्दुस्तान में रिकार्ड एग्रीकल्चर प्रोडक्शन होने जा रहा है। तो सरकार की नीति का इसने कुछ सहयोग है और जहाँ तक सरकार का ताल्लुक है हमने गारिमेंट्स डिमिन्शन लिया है कि कम से कम 6 से 8 घंटे एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर को बिजली दी जायेगी और यह प्रोग्राम जारी है।

श्री सभापति : श्री स्ट्राक्चरल और रामेश्वर सिंह।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी का वचन बहुत ध्यान से सुन रहा था। मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि एग्रीकल्चर का प्रोडक्शन इतना होने वाला है कि दुनिया आश्चर्य कर जाएगी। होने वाला है, हुआ नहीं है और वह भी भगवान की कृपा से। लेकिन इसकी कृपा क्या है इसके संबंध में मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि इनकी कृपा क्या है भगवान के सहारे छोड़ दीजिए। जब भगवान कृपा करते हैं तो भगवान का नाम लेते हैं और भगवान कृपा नहीं दिखाते हैं तो अपनी नाम जपते हैं कि मैंने किया।

श्री सभापति : दो ही तो रहे हैं।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मेरा सवाल इनसे है, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा, मेरा सवाल है कि क्या मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि देश में, सम्पूर्ण देश की मैं चर्चा कर रहा था केवल उत्तर प्रदेश और अपने इलाके पूर्व उत्तर प्रदेश की चर्चा नहीं कर रहा हूँ, मैं अभी बम्बई से आया हूँ मैं कल की बात बता रहा हूँ, क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि देश में आज किसानों के लिए बिजली का इतना संकट है कि

खलिहानों में खड़ी फसल पड़ी है, पछूथा हवा बंद है, यह भगवान की कृपा है कि पछूथा हवा बंद हो गयी, अगर पछूथा चलती तो कहते मैं रोज बिजली दे रहा हूँ। लेकिन भगवान ने भी ठेंगा दिखा दिया। अब इनमें मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि जब भगवान ने ठेंगा दिखा दिया, पछूथा हवा बंद है, पूर्वा हवा चल रही है तो क्या मंत्री जी यह गारण्टी देंगे कि जो किसानों के खलिहानों में फसल पड़ी है क्या बरसात के पहले उस फसल को बिजली देकर बोनी करने का प्रबंध करेंगे ताकि जो आप आशा किये हुए हैं कि जो फसल हाने वाली है वह फसल आपके घर में आ जाये नहीं तो बरसात में सड़ने की संभावना है, यह मैं गारण्टी चाहता हूँ।

श्री बसंत साठे : आज भगवान डिफेंड करने तो नहीं है लेकिन भगवान ने, ये जो कह रहे हैं ठेंगा दिखा दिया यह बराबर पार्लियामेंटरी है या नहीं.. (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : भगवान ने ठेंगा दिखा दिया.. (व्यवधान)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir, Bhagwan is not in the House to defend Himself. Why should he name Him?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: If you are a believer, then Bhagwan is in the House.

श्री सभापति : सवाल बिजली का है।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : यह चर्चा नहीं होनी चाहिए, सेक्यूलर स्टेट हैं.. (व्यवधान) भगवान की चर्चा नहीं होनी चाहिए।

श्री सभापति : अब बिजली क्यों मिरा रहे हैं ?

श्री विक्रम महाजन : मैंने बड़ी तफसील के साथ कहा कि सरकार की नीति, किसानों

की मेहनत और भगवान की मेहनत, इन्होंने पहली दो बातें तो सुनीं नहीं सिर्फ तीसरी बात पर चर्चा करने रहे। सरकार की नीति की वजह से यह भी एक बड़ी फैक्टर है कि आज रिकार्ड तोड़ प्रोडक्शन एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर में होने जा रहा है, मैं दुबारा कह रहा हूँ।

दूसरी बात जहाँ तक बिजली का ताल्लुक है जब इन महानुभाव की सरकार थी उस वक्त और आज का कम्पैरिजन किया जाय तो सिर्फ अप्रैल के महीने में 17 परसेंट ज्यादा बिजली इस साल अप्रैल में पैदा हुई।

श्री सभापति : उनका सवाल दूसरा है, बरसात के आने के पहले आप क्या करेंगे।

श्री विक्रम महाजन : जहाँ तक बरसात आने के पहले का ताल्लुक है आज इस वक्त भारत में हर स्टेट में काफी बिजली है जो कि एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर की डिमांड को मीट कर सकती है।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन्, एक मिनट। इन्होंने यह कहा है कि—मैंने सवाल पूछा है बरसात के पहले आप इंतजाम करेंगे कि नहीं?

श्री सभापति : वही तो मैंने भी पूछा है।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : इन्होंने इसका उत्तर नहीं दिया। यह कह रहे हैं कि सरकार प्रबंध कर चुकी है। मैंने पूछा है कि...

श्री विक्रम महाजन : मैं बांड तो आपको लिख कर दे नहीं सकता। मैंने कहा है कि काफी है जिससे उनकी डिमाण्ड पूरी हो जाएगी।... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : वे आपसे बांड लेने के लिए तैयार हैं।... (व्यवधान)

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I know from the Minister whether it is a fact that the scheme of the Central Government assistance for Harijan basti electrification was on an *ad hoc* basis till 1976-77 when it was transferred to the State sector and the Central Government stopped giving aid by the Rural Electrification Corporation authorities to State Governments or State Electricity Boards for electrification of Harijan bastis. Therefore, it seems that a backlog is there. I would like to know how many Harijan bastis in villages are not electrified and for which you have now made a provision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the largest question.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: It concerns the entire country. (*Interruptions*). Giving an answer is not so difficult. I have got somewhere the figures; I have just to find out. What I am trying to say is that during the previous Government's regime the scheme was not enforced as we are trying to enforce. The money placed for the electrification of Harijan bastis was nominal, and that is why the backlog has increased. In the Sixth Plan we have kept Rs. 33 crores for the backlog to be covered and if this money is exhausted within the Plan period, we will provide more money. It depends on how much each State can consume within the next few years. If they want more money, we will provide more. Let them come out with the schemes. There is no shortage of money so far as Harijan bastis and backward areas are concerned.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE.- Sir, he has not answered my question whether the scheme was transferred to the State Sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has given sufficient answer.

*190. [The questioner Shri Hukradco Narayan Yadav) was absent for answer vide col. infra.]

Setting up Refineries in North India

*191. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal under Government's consideration to set up one of the two proposed refineries in the Sixth Five Year Plan in Northern India; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and if so, at what place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of the Site Selection Committee for the exact location is being examined.

SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister kindly tell if Karnal is one of them or not? If so, what is the capacity that the Karnal refinery is going to have?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any refinery at Karnal?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Karnal is one of the sites.

SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: What is the capacity?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: The capacity proposed is three million tonnes.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: What are the other sites under consideration?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: In Haryana or anywhere else?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want it in every constituency?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: The question is about Northern India. Out of the two proposed in the Northern India, the Minister said various sites are under consideration. He has mentioned one place. If he had not given the name of one place, it was a different matter.