

in distributing portfolios to women. Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. There are some officials, as the hon. Minister mentioned, who went with this exhibition to Frankfurt. It is very well to have put on exhibition 1300 books whether by the National Book Trust or by private publishers. Some were sold and some were given to the Embassy. Now, these officials went there. Did these officials contact some publishing houses there during their stay in Frankfurt or some university libraries or some other libraries? Did they come with concrete orders for books published in India?

SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Sir, this Frankfurt exhibition is a very prestigious international book fair. About 4,500 publishers have participated in this Fair. And it is a fact that our participation in this exhibition helped us in book promotion. For example, our book exports, including magazines and periodicals, have increased from Rs. 1.53 crores during 1972-73 to Rs. 4 crores in 1977-78.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have already taken 20 minutes. How can we cover more questions if all of you want to put questions? Next question.

Reclamation of the Chambal Ravines

*752. **SHRI BHIM RAJ:**
SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA:†
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:
SHRI PRAKASH
MEHROTRA:
SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH:

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sawaisingh Sisodia.

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reclaim the Chambal Ravines in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the schemes formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Central Scheme 'Pilot Projects for Protection of Table Land and Stabilisation of Ravinous Areas', has been in operation in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat since 1969-70. Under this scheme, an area of 22.39 thousand hacs. has already been treated with an expenditure of Rs. 479.40 lakhs. For 1978-79 a target of 21,883 hacs. has been adopted with an outlay of Rs. 192.50 lakhs.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: Sir, the hon. Minister must be aware that the land which is under these ravines is very fertile and rich. Not only this. There is a great loss to the nation. Sir, the dacoity menace will also be eradicated if these ravines are cleared. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many years it will take, according to their schemes to clear all the ravines in these four States and what the total cost would be, and whether the negotiations with the World Bank or any other world agency have been finalised to finance these schemes.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, for the last nine years some work has been going on for the reclamation of these ravines and so far only about 2½ per cent of the work has been done. The total area to be reclaimed is about four million

hectares and so far under the Central Schemes only 22,000 hectares have been reclaimed and under the State schemes another 88,000 hectares have been reclaimed. That is the total reclamation done so far. This comes to only 2½ per cent and we are adding another ½ per cent this year and this will come to only 3 per cent of the total. The total reclamation will cost something like Rs. 3,000 crores.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
Sir, my question was how many years the Government will take to complete the whole work. Two and a half per cent means only a drop in the ocean. Therefore, I want to know again what the schemes of the Government are and how many years will they take to complete these schemes in all the four States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can put your second supplementary also. You put both and he will reply.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
May I know what the cost per acre is, which is being incurred to clear these ravines.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
Sir, it is likely to take a very long time because these gullies...

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
You must say definitely.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
No definite answer can be given about the period which is likely to be taken because it is a very stupendous task and it has taken thousands and thousands of years to form these gullies and ravines. I would submit that the cost calculated for the reclamation of those ravines is...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is telling about the cost.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
Sir, he is not audible at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is just in front of the mike. *(Interruptions).*

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, will it take millions of years for the clearance of these ravines? What kind of an answer has he given to the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sisodia wants to know the cost of reclamation per acre and also the time within which it is going to be completed.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
Sir, he must speak with full responsibility.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member, Shri Sisodia, wants to know how much time it will take and secondly, the cost per acre that will be incurred. *(Interruptions).* Now, let him reply.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
Sir, he is not replying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be silent.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
Sir, I say that it is likely to take a very long time.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
What is the period?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
I cannot give any definite period or any exact period within which it will be completed. I have said that during the last nine years only 2½ per cent of the area has been reclaimed. And, this year, we are reclaiming an area which was reclaimed in 9 years. So, within one year we are reclaiming about 22,000 hectares, which had been reclaimed in the last 9 years. We are pushing ahead with these things. Regarding the cost of reclamation per hectare of these areas, I may say that it is about Rs. 5,000 per hectare.

श्री प्रकाश मेहरोत्रा : मान्यवर, इस चम्बल वैली को रिक्लेम करने की बैकग्राउंड यह है कि इन रैवाइन्स में डाकू लोग रहते थे, वे राजस्थान मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश के जो नजदीक के एरियाज थे उनमें डाके डालते थे, तो परपज उसका रिक्लेम करने का यह था कि वे डाकू वहां से हट जायें या जिन लोगों ने, डाकूओं को सरेन्डर किया है उन लोगों को वहां बसाया जा सके और डकैती कम हो सके। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जितना एरिया इन्होंने रिक्लेम किया है उनमें से कितने एरिया को उन्होंने जिन डाकूओं ने सरेन्डर किया था, उनकी फेमिलीज को वहां दिया है, वहां बसाया है और उनको फर्दर बसाने के लिए क्या क्या और व्यवस्था सरकार कर रही है ?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, I would only request you to consider whether it arises out of this question.

श्री नत्थी सिंह : मैं मंत्रा महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में जो जमीन की कमी है और भूमिहीन लोगों को जमीन चाहिए फिर भी इतनी वास्ट जमीन बँकार पड़ी है तो क्या यह सही है कि पिछले दिनों जो एक स्कीम बनाई गई थी जिसके तहत लोगों को इन्वाइट किया गया था कि वे अपने खर्च से चम्बल रैवाइन्स को ठीक करें और इसके लिए पंजाब के बहुत से लोगों ने एप्लाई भी किया था, क्या उस स्कीम को छोड़ दिया गया ? और क्या सरकार एक निर्धारित समय में इस काम को पूरा करने के लिए तोनों स्टेड्स का कोई कारपोरेशन बनाकर या लैंड आर्मी बनाकर जल्दी से जल्दी इन रैवाइन्स को भूमिहीनों को देगी ? डकैतों को बसाने के लिए गलत समझा गया है वह मामला नहीं है। डकैतों को बसाने के लिए आप क्या कोई डैफिनिट प्लान बनाने के लिए तैयार हैं ?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : ऐसी किसी स्कीम की इन्फार्मेशन मेरे पास तो नहीं है। अभी इन्होंने सवाल किया है तो पता करके इ नको बता सकता हूँ। के कोई ऐसी स्कीम थी या नहीं। लेकिन मैं कह सकता हूँ कि हमारी कोशिश है और कुछ प्रोजेक्ट्स तैयार किए हैं जिनको हम फाइनेन्सिंग के लिए वर्ल्ड बैंक फाइनेन्शियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस को प्रपोज करेगे जिससे यह काम बड़े पैमाने पर हो सके। उत्तर प्रदेश, गुजरात, राजस्थान, चम्बल रैवाइन्स के बारे में अलग-अलग प्रोजेक्ट्स तैयार किए हैं।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : निश्चित समय के लिए पूछा गया था, लेकिन जवाब नहीं मिला है।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, the question is: Whether Government propose to reclaim the Chambal ravines in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh; and if so, what are the details of the schemes? May I know from the hon. Minister if he has done his home work properly and if he knows what those schemes are? What is the outlay of the schemes involved and whether the outlay will take care of the reclamation of the entire ravines or not?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: That is what I was trying to tell the hon. Member. Probably he has not read the answer. I had mentioned that we have a scheme. The scheme is known as Pilot Projects for Protection of Table Land and Stabilisation of Ravinous Areas. It has been in operation in U. P., Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat since 1969-70, for the last nine years in all these areas. Under this scheme, an area of 22,390 hectares has already been treated with an expenditure of Rs. 479.40 lakhs and for 1978-79, we have again taken up an area of 21,883 hectares at a cost of Rs. 192.50 lakhs. This was my answer and it is very clear.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Is it the question? Sir, I seek your protection. We have not asked what particular schemes they have. The question is: Whether the Government proposes to reclaim the Chambal ravines or not. Let him say 'Yes' or 'No'.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I have said it; I do not know why he does not listen.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, he is giving the particulars of the schemes. That is not the answer. Sir, I seek your protection. I am not one who will unnecessarily raise it. My question is: Whether ravines as a whole will be reclaimed or not, and what are the details?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, probably, the hon. Member was not attentive when I was answering. I had said: (a) Yes, Sir, and (b) I had given the detailed answer regarding the scheme. So we have the intention of reclaiming the ravines...
(Interruptions)

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: For information of the Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot go on. Mr. Sisodia, you have had two supplementaries.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : श्रीमन्, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में जो जमीन कृषि योग्य बनाने की बात है तो क्या मंत्री जो मिर्जापुर जिले को जो एक बहुत बड़ा इलाका है वहाँ करीब दो लाख एकड़ जमीन ऐसी पड़ी है जिसको कृषि योग्य बनाया जा सकता है, इसको कृषि योग्य बनाने की क्या सरकार की कोई योजना है? क्या वहाँ पर सिंचाई की कोई व्यवस्था करेंगे क्योंकि वह पहाड़ के ऊपर है? वहाँ के लोग गरीबी की हालत में रहते हैं।

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : यह क्वेश्चन तो रैवाइन्स और रिक्लेमेशन का था, न कि पानी का और न ही पहाड़ का।

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether the Government is prepared to hand over some of the ravine land to those individuals who are prepared to take the land and make it fit for cultivation?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: There is no such scheme for allocating this land to such individuals who are prepared to reclaim this land because some of the land belongs to some individuals. It is only because of the very cost that the State Governments and the Central Government are trying to do it.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How are you concerned with this question?

SHRI L. R. NAIK: Sir, I am concerned with it. May I know from the hon. Minister what percentage of the reclaimed land has been granted to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I am not in a position to answer.

Master Plan for River Basins

*753. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a Master Plan for river basin to curb floods;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the Plan is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.