

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDI: I presume. Sir, that all the State Governments have constituted National Integration councils. That was...

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: It is not a question of presumption. Have you got any information from any States that such Councils have been constituted or not? If yes, which are the States?

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDI: The information that I have got is like this. The State Governments were requested to constitute State-level Integration Councils on the pattern of the National Integration Council. The State-level Integration Councils are functioning in most of the States and the Union Territories.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Sir, this reply is very vague. I am not satisfied with this reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will have to collect the information.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: He should say so. This reply is very vague. I know that in many States these Councils are not functioning, not even constituted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you know it, then it is not necessary for you to put a supplementary.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Therefore, suitable action should be taken by the Home Minister to see that these Councils are constituted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for consideration. Next question.

New Strategy for the development of Tribal Border, Hilly and Dry Areas

•217. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have evolved a new strategy for

the development of the tribal border, hilly and dry areas in the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, which are the Ministries which will be involved in the implementation of the work in this regard earmarked for 1975-76?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) The present strategy for the development of backward areas including tribal areas, hill areas & drought prone areas is stated in Chapter XIV of the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan (Vol. II).

(b) Besides Planning Commission which is primarily concerned with the consideration of policies and examination of plan programmes/schemes, the main Ministries which are involved in the implementation of special programmes of development for the various categories of backward areas are the Ministries of Agriculture and Irrigation, Industry & Civil Supplies, Home Affairs, Shipping and Transport and Finance.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, it is felt and was also announced by Shri I. K. Gujral, his predecessor, that unless we build up certain infrastructure like railways, roads, electricity and water in these areas, we cannot implement the Twenty-Point Programme of the Prime Minister effectively. What steps has the Planning Commission suggested to build up infra-structure in these particular areas? Is the Planning Commission planning to start a special cell to look into the problems of tribal areas?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: Sir, so far as the special cell is concerned, there is a Hill Area Cell which has been set up. This Cell is going into this question relating to hill areas. So far as the infra-structure is concerned, we are having integrated plans for the hill areas and the tribal areas and these include roads and other infrastructure facilities. During the cur-

rent year, we have increased the allocation for the hill areas to 36 crores of rupees for the previous year's allocation of 20 crores of rupees so that the roads and other things also can be looked after. So far as the tribal areas are concerned, the allocation has increased to 40 crores of rupees from the last year's allocation of 20 crores of rupees. We shall try to build up as much infra-structure as is possible.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: It is also felt that nearly 80 per cent of the investment is being spent on core sectors like agriculture, irrigation, etc. Is the Planning Commission going to give more allocation for education, railways, and social welfare especially in these tribal areas?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: Core areas like agriculture, irrigation and industries are very important. Apart from the investment in core areas, the Minister of Education have a scheme of grants for Functional Literacy Programme in five Integrated Tribal Development Project Areas. So far as roads are concerned, there is a provision of 7 crores of rupees for strategic roads this year.

SHRI BIRCHAND BARMAN: Has the Planning Commission evolved any special programme for the development of the North Eastern Region and hilly and tribal areas of Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: North Eastern Region has special problems, there is the plan of the North Eastern Region. The allocation this year is Rs. 16.50 crores compared to the allocation of Rs. 10 crores last year. We are seeking to give considerable importance to this region.

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN: Sir, it is known that the progress of development in the areas which have been mentioned is the lowest in the country. While preparing the Fifth Plan, the Planning Commission urged upon

the State Governments to draw up separate integrated plans for the hilly and other areas. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any of the States have drawn up such integrated plans and if so, which are those States, and what progress has been made so far with regard to those integrated plans.

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: We are trying to have integrated plans with regard to these backward areas, particularly the hill areas and the tribal areas. Integrated plans for these areas are called sub-plans. And we have indicated to the States that they should disengage from their State Plan outlays the moneys they are spending on these areas, and the Central additional outlays will be integrated into that. And that kind of sub-plans have been prepared in a number of States.

श्री बनारसी दास : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश के देहरी गढ़वाल जिले में जो जीनसार भावर का जिला है और जहाँ पर परकपिटा इन्कम सब से कम है, उन क्षेत्रों के लिए आपने क्या योजना बनाई है? अल्मोड़ा जो पिछड़ा क्षेत्र है और वहाँ की सरकार ने इस क्षेत्र में कारखाने लगाने के लिए 15 प्रतिशत तक सब्सिडी देने की घोषणा की है, लेकिन इन्फ्रस्ट्रक्चर न होने की वजह से कोई भी इसका लाभ नहीं उठा पा रहे हैं। क्या प्लानिंग कमिशन ने इस तरह की योजना बनाई है कि देहरी गढ़वाल, जो कि सब से पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है, वहाँ पर कोई विशेष प्रोजेक्ट सरकार की तरफ से शुरू किये जायेंगे ताकि वहाँ के लोगों का स्तर ऊँचा हो सके ?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: So far as the Tehri-Garhwal area is concerned, there is an outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs for that area during this year. So far as the hill areas of U.P. are concerned, there was an outlay of Rs. 12 crores last year, and that outlay has been increased this year.

श्री रोशन लाल : वजीरे मंसूबाबंदी ने अन्ना पहाड़ों और हिल एरिया का जिक्र किया। जहाँ तक मंसूबाबंदी का ताल्लुक है, इसको सोअसर तरीके से अगर अमली जामा पहिनाया जाय तो वहाँ की शकल बदली जा सकती है। इसमें शक नहीं है कि इन इनाकों के लिए योजना बनाई गई है, लेकिन जितना काम वहाँ पर होना चाहिये था उतना नहीं हुआ। इसके दो नुमाया पहलू हैं। एक पहलू तो यह है कि जो कुदरत ने जो कुदरती जराये इन पहाड़ों को दिया है जिसमें बहुत बड़े बड़े जंगलात हैं और बहुत सारे दूसरे भादमिवात मौजूद हैं। अगरचे सरकार खुद सड़कें बनाकर वहाँ के लोगों की मिथारे जिन्दगी को बुलन्द करना चाहती है तो उनको दूसरे कुदरती जराये को भी नजरअन्दाज नहीं करना चाहिये।

जहाँ तक कुदरती जरायों का ताल्लुक है यह चीज कई मर्तबा देखने में आई है और मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन पहाड़ों में जो जंगलात हैं उनकी बेरहमी के साथ दरोह किया जा रहा है जिसकी वजह से वहाँ की आबोहवा भी खत्म हो गई है। वहाँ का जो वातावरण है और जिस माहोल में लोग रहते हैं, इस चीज की वजह से उनकी जिन्दगी में भी असर पड़ा है। यहाँ के पहाड़ों का इरोजन शुरू हो गया है। जो हमारे बड़े बड़े डैम्स हो वे पहाड़ों की मिट्टी से पुर हो रहे हैं। तो मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर जंगलों को जिस बेरहमी के साथ काटा जा रहा है, उसको रोकने के लिए आप कोई मुअसर एकदामात करने जा रहे हैं ताकि जंगलातों का काटना बन्द हो सके? जिस समय वहाँ पर रियासती निजाम था, अंग्रेजों का निजाम था, उस वक्त इन जंगलों के ऊपर किसी प्राइवेट आदमी को कोई कब्जा था और न ही इनको दोरह आने की इजाजत थी। लेकिन अब देखने में आया है कि जंगलात के जंगलात साफ हो रहे हैं। क्या सरकार इन जंगलातों को सरकारी तोहिल में लेने लगी का विचार

रखती है। और क्या प्लानिंग कमिशन के सामने इस तरह की कोई स्कीम है वरना यह इलाका रेगिस्तान बन जायेगा?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: There are three parts to the question. With regard to the first part about the hill areas, we have got hill areas in Uttar Pradesh, in Assam, in West Bengal, in Tamil Nadu, in Western Ghats and in Jammu and Kashmir and in the North Eastern Regions and for all these areas, we have got certain special programmes. With regard to the second part of the question about the utilisation of the local resources of these hill areas, we place considerable emphasis on this and we are trying to develop horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, tourism etc. in these areas under the various hill area sub-plans. With regard to the third part of the question, we are entirely in agreement with the hon. Member about this menace of deforestation and the Prime Minister has mentioned about it on a number of occasions. Even at the last meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Planning Ministry, this was taken up and also in the Chief Secretaries conference so that a real drive can be launched to prevent deforestation and to have a massive programme of afforestation.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: I hope the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the special programmes enunciated by the Planning Commission are never fulfilled by the normal and routine departments of the various Ministries. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Planning Commission and the Planning Ministry is contemplating to have special agencies like the small farmer, agency or the marginal farmers agency to fulfil these programmes and see that their implementation is fully carried out.

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: We want better integration and co-ordination but we cannot write off the existing Ministries by calling them as

routine Ministries. So far as co-ordination with regard to hill areas is concerned, we have got a Hill Areas Cell in the Planning Commission itself. So far as the Western Ghats concerned, there is a Committee of Chief Minister_s of the Western Ghats. So far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned there is a committee of direction which goes into this matter and through this process we are trying to bring about greater co-ordination. With regard to tribal sub-plans the Home Ministry is directly trying to bring about greater co-ordination.

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the fact that the population of the hill States is very low, the Planning Commission is considering the question of a separate administrative structure which would reduce the duplication of Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, and so on and so forth?

SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: We are trying to give them support so far as planning is concerned, and so far as the administrative structure is concerned. What is necessary has to be there; we cannot reduce it.

श्री गुणानंद ठाकुर : पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में जिन कामों का शिलान्यास हो चुका है चाहे वह सड़क का हो, चाहे रेल का हो या उद्योग धन्धे का हो उन क्षेत्रों को क्या योजना कमीशन प्राथमिकता देने जा रहा है ? इस सिलसिले में मैं खासकर उत्तर बिहार और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर योजना मंत्रों का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ। चाहे वह रेल का काम हो, उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार को जोड़ने वाली सड़क या रेल का काम हो, निरमली और भगवटिया के रेस्टोरेशन का काम हो, चाहे वाराणसी या समस्तीपुर की बात हो, सड़क, उद्योग-धन्धे या पुल की बात हो, जहाँ कहीं शिलान्यास हो चुका है क्या उन कार्यों को योजना कमीशन प्राथमिकता देने जा रहा है और क्या उसके लिए अलग से फंड देने का विचार रखता है ?

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SHRI SANKAR GHOSE: We are providing separate funds for all these backward areas. We are providing substantially larger funds and out of these larger funds we shall try to see that the projects which have been commenced are completed as soon as possible.

Setting up of paper mills in Cachar and Nowgong

•218. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND, CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 184 given in Rajya Sabha on the 15th January, 1976 and state:

(a) whether the final decision for investment in regard to Cachar and Nowgong paper mill projects has been taken; and

(b) if so, what is the probable date of commissioning of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b) The final Government decision for investment in regard to Nowgong and Cachar paper projects is being processed and is expected to be taken shortly. The projects are expected to be commissioned three and a half years after the date of the final investment decision.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY: Sir, even after the answer of the Minister we remain where we were because my question was whether a final decision for investment in regard to Cachar and Nowgong, - paper mill projects has been taken and, if so, when these projects are likely to be commissioned. Now the answer is that they will be commissioned after the final decision is taken. We are interested to know about this final decision regarding finance.