

**SCHEME FOR TAPPING OF WATER  
RESOURCES IN U.P.**

\*477. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive scheme for tapping water resources in Uttar Pradesh is being considered by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the state of its consideration ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BAUNATH KUREEL) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The total irrigation potential of Uttar Pradesh is about 15 million hectares. On the completion of all the projects taken up so far, the Government of Uttar Pradesh would have exploited about two-thirds of the potential.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh are also carrying out investigations for future projects which would be taken up for implementation as and when they are ready and funds are available for their implementation.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have also recently set up an Irrigation Commission to investigate into and give suggestions about, the various aspects of maximum development and utilisation of available water resources and the problems relating to irrigation.

No comprehensive scheme for tapping water resources in Uttar Pradesh has been sent to the Union Government.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Sir, according to the Statement I find that or

the completion of all the projects taken up so far, the Government of Uttar Pradesh would have exploited about two-thirds of the irrigation potential. May I know, Sir, what has been the contribution of the Central Government towards the development of U. P.'s water resources and the problems relating to irrigation, and what is the percentage of its utilisation being done in practice in Uttar Pradesh ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Sir, assistance is given by the Centre to the State according to a formula prescribed by the National Development Council. We do not give for any particular sector. They give the money in the form of loans and grants according to a particular formula. Therefore, I would not be able to say anything definitely as to how much money has been spent on the irrigation sector, but in general we can say that most of the money has been spent on the irrigation sector, the money given by way of loan by the Central Government.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: In view of the statement of the Minister for Power and Irrigation, may I know if the Central Government is absolutely helpless to see whether the amount that has been given as a matter of loan to the U. P. Government has been utilised for that purpose or not ? Because my information is that a number of electricity stoppage take place because there is no water. And the fields are not being irrigated because there is no water. In such a case is the hon. Minister himself satisfied that the amount of loan advanced has been utilised for that particular purpose ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I am afraid I have got to say that we are helpless in the matter, so to say. But in the case of Uttar Pradesh I have been in close touch with the development of irrigation and power. They are spending the money meant for it and I do not think they are diverting the money. On the other hand, they are anxious to divert the money from other sectors to this sector. Recently, for

one of their projects, for the Sarju project, they are allocating more money by diverting money from other sectors. So, I am afraid I do not agree with the hon. Member.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : May I know on tapping of water resources, in view of the new and very comprehensive and logical report given by the Irrigation Commission, whether the Government is thinking, for the dry lands, particularly for the persistently dry areas, there is the utmost necessity of tapping water resources and for investment to be made for the purpose ? Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what steps he is proposing to see that, in particularly chronic areas, where there is no water available, efforts are made for water resources ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that there are 55 districts in this country which are scarcity-stricken areas, and utmost attention must be given to these areas so as to supply as much water as is possible. That is one of the aims of the Fifth Plan and the aim in the Fifth Plan would be to forge ahead with some links and some feeders of water to those scarcity areas, so that the suffering in those scarcity areas may be reduced. That will be the policy for the Fifth Plan.

SHRI S. D. MISRA : Has any assessment been made regarding the tapping of water resources in UP? Will the hon. Minister please enlighten us about the percentage of utilisable water, both surface water and underground water, in UP ? Is it not a fact that UP has the largest quantity of utilisable water for irrigation, but the capacity utilised is the minimum as compared to his own State Andhra Pradesh and Madras? The utilisation capacity is poor not because the money is not utilised but because the money allocation is very poor.

DR. K. L. RAO : The hon. Member is correct so far as his observation is concerned, but not in his conclusion. The

total gross cropped area of UP is 22 million hectares. Out of that the irrigation potential is 15 million hectares. In fact, it can be much more because UP has got the great fortune of having very heavy underground water. The largest amount of underground water is in UP. The potential is calculated to be 15 million hectares or nearly two-thirds of the total cropped area. It will be much more when we investigate more and more underground water. We have identified the various projects in respect of surface water and not the underground water. The irrigation potential from the latter is fairly good, I agree, but there is one observation which I should like to make. In the case of the irrigation projects that have been executed in UP, a large number of them and particularly the Sarju project and others have been planned and conceived of as a protective work. They do not carry water to maximise food production. That is the great difficulty with the Saria Canal system that has been completed in UP. Now, we have to take up the project which will feed water into the same system and make it productive. The main trouble in UP is the system is protective and not productive. That is what we are trying to rectify.

SHRI S. D. MISRA : Has the money been well spent ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I have already said that I do not agree with his conclusion. The money has been very well spent. They want more money. For example, in the Fourth Plan a sum of Rs. 136 crores has been provided for irrigation projects which is a large amount. There is no reason why I should say contrary to that.

SHRI T. N. SINGH : Is it not a fact that the money allocation demanded for the Fourth Plan by the UP Government has been much larger than actually allocated under the Plan and that the cut made in the Plan as against the demand made by the UP Government was of a very high order ? Will he confirm or deny it ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The amount allocated in the first appraisal was Rs. 90 crores for medium and major irrigation projects in UP. This has since been raised to Rs. 136 crores.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH: Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not from U.P.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH : I am very much interested.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are a new Member. Therefore, I am allowing you.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH : Is it not a fact that in the year 1963 an agreement was signed to construct the Kishaw dam ? May I know when it is likely to be started or taken up for construction and when it is likely to be completed ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The hon. Member was the Irrigation Minister in Punjab and that is how he knows this. It is quite true, as the hon. Member has said, that we had discussed the Kishaw project. It helps a good number of States including Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and so on. But unfortunately the investigations are not complete. They have done one site only and now they are doing the other site. They have not been finalised. I am pursuing it with the UP Government to finalise the investigations as soon as possible so that we can take up the work as quickly as possible.

#### WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN KERALA

♦478. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irrigation projects in Kerala have been considered by Government for World Bank assistance; and

(a) if so, what are the details of the projects and the proposed assistance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BAIJNATH KUREEL): (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The Government of India have posed three irrigation projects in Kerala namely the Pamba, Kuttiyadi and Pazhassi Projects to the World Bank for financial assistance. The first project envisages the construction of a Barrage across the Kakkad river, a tributary of the Pamba river, it would utilise tailrace waters of the Sabarigiri Hydro electric Project already in operation and, on completion, would provide irrigation over an area of 43,000 acres. The second project consists of a masonry dam across the Kuttiyadi river and, on completion, would provide irrigation benefits over an area of 36,000 acres. The third project consists of a Barrage on the Valapattanam river and, on completion, would irrigate an area of 14,000 acres. The proposals are under discussions with the World Bank. The extent of assistance would be determined on the conclusion of these discussions.

श्री बीरेन्द्र कुमार सकलेचा : क्या माननीय मन्त्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि इरिगेशन के बारे में जो अलग-अलग स्टेट्स हैं उनमें बड़ा अन्तर है, मध्य प्रदेश में 7 या 8 परसेंट इरिगेशन है और अन्य स्टेट्स में 22 या 23 परसेंट इरिगेशन है, तो यह समान रूप से आ सके और इसके लिए वर्ल्ड बैंक से सहायता के लिये, विशेष रूप से जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं, जहाँ पर बहुत कम इरिगेशन है उनके लिए भारत सरकार क्या प्रयास कर रही है ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that Madhya Pradesh is the lowest in the country in point of irrigation and we should make an attempt in the next Plan to