

exist in different States, but we have revised them. Somewhere they are less. Efforts are being made to persuade the State Governments to bring them into line with others. So far as accommodation is concerned, we have seen to it that the married doctors are given accommodation. Unmarried doctors also get accommodation. Even some houses I have taken out from the Works Department and put them at their disposal.

GHAGGAR DAM

*34- DR. SALIG RAM :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be please to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the Government of Haryana for the construction of the Ghaggar Dam; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDESHWAR PRASAD): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I know whether the question of the Ghaggar dam is before the Government for some time now and what are the various aspects of the proposal? May I know whether the Haryana Government or any other Government is involved in this, what benefits can accrue from it and what difficulties are there in the way ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The Ghaggar dam project has not been received by the Centre. I understand it is under review by the Haryana Government. This project will benefit the States of Haryana and Punjab and the Union territory of Chandigarh in the matter of irrigation. It will also supply drinking water to Chandigarh city and the industrial areas in the neighbourhood. It will have some limited flood control effect. So, these various benefits can accrue from the dam, but unfortunately the cost of the project is rather too high. Unless the various beneficiaries share

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kanl.

the cost and also make a provision for it in the Fourth Five Year Plan, I am afraid it will be difficult to take up this project.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I know from the Government whether, in view of the various difficulties coming in the way, the hon. Minister will call a conference of the representatives of the various Governments and try to solve the problem, so that action could be taken immediately ? Also, in view of the financial difficulties of the States, will the Government consider giving them a loan for the construction of this dam, which could be repaid by them ?

DR. K. L. RAO : All this will arise after the project has been received from the Haryana Government and when it is received we will examine it and take the necessary steps indicated by the hon. Member.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह मंडारी : मैं मंत्री को दय के ध्यान में एक बात लाना चाहता हूँ। इस के पानी से राजस्थान का गंगानगर जिला भी सम्बन्धित है। पिछले दिनों में घग्घर में बाढ़ आने के कारण राजस्थान के इस हिस्से को कई वार कष्ट भी हुआ है। इस बाढ़ को बनाने समय इन दोनों बातों का क्या ध्यान रखा जायेगा कि राजस्थान को मिलने वाले पानी की मात्रा में कमी न पड़े और राजस्थान को जो हानि हो रही है घग्घर के पानी के लिए ठीक नाली न बनने के कारण उसमें सुधार लाया जा सके।

DR. K. L. RAO : This dam is very near Chandigarh. It is only ten miles from there whereas Rajasthan is very far away. The effect of this on flood control would be rather very limited. It will not spread its benefits to Rajasthan State. The catchment area at the place of construction is only 168 square miles, whereas at Rajasthan, it is 6,500 square miles. Therefore, the flood control effect on account of the Ghaggar dam will not be very much. So, the hon. Member need not fear that there will be any reduction of water supplied to Rajasthan. If at all, Rajasthan would like to have less water because of the flooding of Rajasthan.

SHRI A. D. MANI : The hon. Minister stated that the cost of construction of dam will be very high. Have any estimates

been worked out and what is the estimated cost of such a da n ?

DR. K. L. RAO : An estimate had been worked out by the Punjab Government when it was not divided. The cost then was estimated at Rs. 26 crores.

MORARKA COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE L. I. C.

*₁₅. SARDAR RAM SINGH† : SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Morarka Committee has opposed decentralisation of the LIC and has supported the case for reduction in premium rates;

(b) whether the recommendations of the committee have been examined by Government ; and

(c) if so, what recommendations have been accepted by Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) The Morarka Committee has opposed decentralisation of Corporation as well as the reduction of premium rates for with-profit policies. It has, however recommended, that the Corporation should consider suitable reduction in the premium scales for without-profit policies.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration.

SARDAR RAM SINGH : The report of the Morarka Committee has been with the Government for some months. May I know how long will it take for the Government to finally examine it and take a decision on it, if any ?

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA: The report has been forwarded to the L. I. C. and the L. I. C. is considering it.

SARDAR RAM SINGH: May I know whether it is a fact that there are some differences about the question of decentralisation between the Estimates Committee and the Morarka Committee ? If so, what are those differences ?

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA: Everybody knows that there is difference

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Sardar Ram Singh.

between the opinion of the Morarka Committee and that of the Parliamentary Committee on Public undertakings and it is being considered by the Government. *(Interruption)* Both are under the consideration of the Government.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: This report of the Morarka Committee, as has been stated by the Government, is under consideration as per (b) and (c). But it is a very urgent measure and the demand of the people and the insureds is that immediate reduction must take place because the premiums which are being charged are so high, and the Morarka Committee has also found that the premium can be reduced if the operational efficiency can be increased. For that purpose may I know from the Government positively whether they will take a step for debureaucratisation of the Board of Directors of the L. I. C. so that reduction in the cost and in the premium will take place on the one hand, and, secondly, money will be available for the irrigation projects as well as small industries and farmers from the L. I. C. investments rather than their being directed to the ten big houses ?

SHRI P. C. SETHI : There are two or three parts of the question. One is about the reduction of the rates of premium. As far as the Morarka Committee is concerned, it has said that as far as the with-profit policies are concerned 95 per cent of the surplus is being returned as bonus. Therefore, they have recommended reduction of premium rates only in respect of those policies which are without-profit. That is under the active consideration of the Board. As far as the expense ratio is concerned, the Morarka Committee has given certain suggestions and the Board will examine that. As far as the investment of the L. I. C. is concerned, it is a known fact that the major part of the investment is with the Government and public concerns, it is 72 per cent; it is only 19 per cent in the private sector.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: The L. I. C. is a nationalised undertaking, and when claims are made on behalf of nationalisation, it is said that the interests of the small man and people who are neglected will be looked after better. May I know therefore from the Government if they have given thought to this aspect of the question that delay in the implementation of such a decision which is going to give benefit to the common man, to the poor man, who is buying the policy of the L. I. C.— any such decision will not be delayed