

एकीकृत परती भूमि विकास कार्यक्रम

*703 श्री मोतीलाल बोरा: क्या ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) स्वर्ण जयंती ग्रामीण स्वरोजगार योजना और एकीकृत परती भूमि विकास कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार से पिछले एक वर्ष के दौरान कौन-कौन से प्रस्ताव सरकार को प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) राज्य सरकार द्वारा इनके लिए कितनी धनराशि की मांग की गई है और सरकार द्वारा कितनी राशि स्वीकृत की गई है; और

(ग) सभी योजनाओं का समय पर पूरा किया जाना सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री (श्री एम. वैकट्या नायडू): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

वित्तीय वर्ष 2001-2002 के दौरान छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार से प्राप्त प्रस्तावों के ब्यौरे निम्नानुसार हैं:—

(i) स्वर्णजयंती ग्राम स्वरोजगार योजना के अंतर्गत विशेष परियोजना

2001-2002 के दौरान गांव खैरखूट, ब्लॉक तिल्दा, जिला रायपुर में खारून नदी पर स्टॉप डैम-कम-काँजवे के निर्माण के लिए स्वर्णजयंती ग्राम स्वरोजगार योजना (एस०जी०एस०वाई०) के अंतर्गत 2.02 करोड़ रु० की एक विशेष परियोजना प्राप्त हुई थी। सिद्धांतिक रूप से, इस परियोजना को स्वीकार कर लिया गया है, बशर्ते राज्य सरकार विशेष रूप से, गरीबी रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले परिवारों की भूमि के कवरेज को दर्शाते हुए, कमांड क्षेत्र में भूमि के स्वामित्व के ब्यौरे उपलब्ध कराए। राज्य प्राधिकारियों को अभी अपेक्षित जानकारी भेजनी है।

(ii) समेकित बंजरभूमि विकास कार्यक्रम (आई० डब्ल्यू० डी० पी०)

2001-2002 के दौरान छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य के लिए 7 आई० डब्ल्यू० डी० पी० परियोजनाओं का प्राथमिकता क्रम निर्धारित किया गया था जिसमें बिलासपुर, कवर्धा, रायगढ़, जांजगीर-चांपा तथा महासमुंद जिलों में से प्रत्येक के लिए एक तथा रायपुर जिले के लिए

दो परियोजनाएं शामिल थीं। राज्य सरकार ने 16 परियोजनाओं के लिए प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किये थे, जिसमें से प्राथमिकता क्रम वाली परियोजनाओं के अनुसार 6 परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी जा सकती थी। स्वीकृत परियोजनाओं की कुल लागत 2546.16 लाख रु० है जिसकी तुलना में राज्य को केन्द्रीय अंश की पहली किस्त के रूप में 101.40 लाख रु० की राशि रिलीज की गई थी।

2. योजनाओं के अंतर्गत परियोजनाओं को शीघ्र पूरा करने के लिए किए गए उपायों में निधियों की समय पर रिलीज, जिला तथा जिला ग्रामीण विकास एजेंसियों, परियोजना कार्यान्वयन एजेंसियों के कार्यकर्ताओं तथा वाटरशेड समितियों के सदस्यों के लिए प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम, आवधिक रिपोर्टों, क्षेत्र दौरों तथा परियोजनाओं के मध्यावधि मूल्यांकन के जरिए नियमित निगरानी शामिल है।

Integrated Wasteland Development Programme

†*703. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received by Government during the last one year from Government of Chhattisgarh under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme;

(b) the funds demanded by the State Government for the same and the funds sanctioned by Government; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure timely completion of all schemes?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The details of the proposals received from the Government of Chhattisgarh during the financial year, 2001-2002 are as follows:

(i) Special Project under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

During 2001-2002, one Special Project for Rs. 2.02 crores was received under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for construction of a Stop Dam-cum-Causeway across Kharun river at

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

village Khairkhut, Block Tilda, District Raipur. The Project has been agreed to in principle, subject to the State Government providing details of ownership of lands in the command area, indicating, especially coverage of lands belonging to Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families. The State authorities have yet to send the requisite information.

(ii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP)

During 2001-2002, Seven IWDP Projects were prioritized for the State of Chhattisgarh comprising one each for Bilaspur, Kawardha, Raigarh, Janjgir-Champa & Mahasamund districts and two for Raipur district. The State Government, however, submitted proposals for Sixteen Projects against which six could be sanctioned in conformity with the prioritized projects. The total cost of sanctioned Projects is Rs. 2546.16 lakhs against which an amount of Rs. 101.40 lakhs was released to the State towards First Instalment of the Central share.

2. The steps taken for speedy completion of the Projects under the Schemes include timely release of funds, training Programmes for district and field level functionaries of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs), Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) and Member of Watershed Committees (WCS), regular monitoring through periodic Reports, Field Visits and Mid-term Evaluation of the Projects.

श्री मोतीलाल बोरा: माननीय सभापति जी, स्वर्ण जयंती ग्राम स्वरोजगार योजना जो 1997 में प्रारंभ हुई और छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य के बनने के बाद सन् 2001-2002 में जो 2 करोड़ 2 लाख का प्रस्ताव दिया गया, इसका उद्देश्य था कि उस ग्राम में स्टाप डैम बने और स्टाप डैम के साथ-साथ एक रपटा भी बने जिससे लोगों को आवागमन की सुविधा हो जाए। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि राज्य सरकार का यह प्रस्ताव कब आपको प्राप्त हुआ? राज्य सरकार के प्रस्ताव में जिन बातों को माननीय मंत्री जी ने उनसे फिर पूछा है, उन सारी बातों का समावेश है। इसके बाद भी लगभग आज एक वर्ष पूरा होने को आया है जबकि राज्य सरकार द्वारा इस प्रस्ताव के बारे में पूरी जानकारी दी गयी है। तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बात की जानकारी देंगे कि जो प्रस्ताव राज्य सरकार से उन्हें प्राप्त हुआ है, वह कब प्राप्त हुआ और उस पर अब तक क्या कार्यवाही हुई है? क्या राज्य सरकार से अभी भी इस बात को पूछा जा रहा है कि राज्य सरकार ने इस दिशा में क्या किया?

दूसरा सवाल, माननीय सभापति महोदय, इस बात का है कि आई० डब्ल्यू० डी० पी० जो योजना है उसके अंतर्गत छत्तीसगढ़ में जो जिले हैं जैसे बिलासपुर, कवर्धा, रायगढ़, जाजगीर-चांपा तथा महासमुद्र, इनके लिए एक योजना को तैयार किया गया, 16 प्रस्ताव दिए गए जिनमें से आपने केवल 6 प्रस्तावों को मंजूरी देने की बात की है जो 2546.16 लाख रुपए के हैं। इसके लिए 101.40 लाख रुपए की राशि आपने रिलीज की है। मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि 16 प्रस्ताव दिए गए थे जिसमें माननीय मंत्री जो ने केवल 6 प्रस्तावों को मंजूरी दी है, बाकी 10 प्रस्तावों में किस प्रकार से खामी थी और यदि ये प्रस्ताव मंजूर होते हैं तो वे कब तक मंजूर होंगे?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, with regard to the specific date of the receipt of proposals from the State, I am sorry that the date is not available with me; I will furnish it to the hon. Member. Secondly, the delay is because of conflicting information given by the State Government with regard to the number of families living below the poverty line, which is going to be benefited. Sir, at the first instance, they said that there were 8,251 acres of land and below-the-poverty-line people constituted only 2.8 per cent. Subsequently, when further clarification was sought, they said that 684.18 acres of land belonged to the below-the-poverty-line people, which comes to 8.29 per cent. Now, the latest information which they have given is 489.58 hectares, that is, 1,224 acres, which comes to 14.3 per cent. The hon. Member, who is a very senior Member, must be aware that normally when we sanction this project, we need to have a minimum percentage of below-the-poverty-line People. This information has to be given by the State Government. Only then they will be able to process it and approve it. Sir, this latest information shows that number of below-the-poverty-line people is comparatively better than the earlier proposals. We have sought certain clarifications. I would like to inform the hon. Member that I have myself gone to that State and I have told the Chief Minister that we will give as many projects as possible because each district can have one special project, and I told him that Chattisgarh, being a backward State, we can give extra projects. This will be processed. I will also get in touch with the hon. Member and inform him about the action taken with regard to the specific project, stop dam, which is very important. Then, as regards IWDP, it is a fact that the States have sent 16 proposals. Being a new State, the District Administration

officials, for a variety of reasons, have not fine-tuned themselves with, what we may say, proposals, submissions and the other details that are required. I have suggested to them that they should have a workshop organised and they should also have a meeting with the Project Director so that they can fine-tune their proposals and send them to us. They have sent some proposals, but some of them are not up to the standards that have been prescribed. That is why only six projects have been cleared. I may also share it with the hon. Member that the total allocation made to Chhattisgarh was 13,000 hectares. The projects so far sanctioned is on 42,000 hectares, which is much above the eligibility of the State. But, still, as I said, it being a backward State, I am trying to relax the eligibility criteria. I have told the Chief Minister who called on me recently that we are willing to give some more projects, provided the projects are sent with the required information that has been asked for.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Sir, the first instalment of Rs. 101.40 lakhs has been released. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when the second instalment is going to be released. I would also like to know about the steps taken for speedy completion of projects under these schemes. The speedy completion of these projects include timely release of funds because it has been mentioned that for the speedy completion of the projects, timely checking, regular monitoring through proper reports, should be done. In this connection, I would like to know when was the last meeting held to monitor all these things because you want things to be done speedily.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, with regard to part (a) of the reply, the money that was mentioned by the hon. Member was sanctioned in the month of March. The proposal was received in the month of March, by that time, we had made almost all releases to different States. So, a token allocation of Rs. 1.1 crore was made. Subsequently, Sir, in this month, on 10th of May, the Government of India has released another Rs. 2.48 crores, which is the balance of the first instalment. So, that has been released on 10th May. The remaining money will also be released because the rules say that 15 per cent is the first instalment. Once they spend the first instalment, we will be releasing the second instalment also. A project normally takes four to five years for completion, because the

Integrated Wasteland Development Programme is a continuous process. Keeping that in mind, we had done it. As far as the funding pattern is concerned, it is 11.1, i.e. 11 by the Centre and one by the State. So, as and when the State release the money, the Centre releases the subsequent instalment also.

Last time, during my visit to the State, I, myself, had reviewed, as I said earlier the progress of the programmes. I was not happy with the progress because many of the officers were unable to understand and speed up these projects. That being the case I, suggested to them to have a workshop. I sent my senior officers also to visit that State. Now, they are in the process of finalisation of these projects. The Area Officers of my State have also recently visited that State. They have reviewed it. The exact date of their visit, I will furnish it to be hon. Member.

SHRI N.R. DASARI: Sir, the hon. Minister is interested in properly harnessing the wasteland. I know that he was also supporting our contention when his predecessor was dealing with the subject. We have reposed great faith in the hon. Minister now and hope that he would take some useful steps. I would only like to request him to clarify as to what steps he has taken—wasteland is not a problem of Chhattisgarh State alone; it is there in the whole country—to solve this problem. For instance, in our State of Andhra Pradesh, as the Minister knows very well, as per the statement of the Chief Minister, there is a vast extent of 85 lakh acres of wasteland. What steps the Rural Development Ministry has taken in order to help the State Government to get, at least, a part of this land cultivated? What steps the Government is going to take in regard to other States? Mr. Minister, you are aware of the recommendations of the Panel of Planning Commission; Eighth Planning Commission, if I remember it correctly. They have made a very strong recommendation that all these wastelands should be brought under cultivation, in course of time, which is a very natural source of national wealth. I would like to request the hon. Minister to clarify the policy, or, the perspective, the Ministry of Rural Development has, so far as this problem is concerned.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, the hon. Member has raised a general question with regard to bringing under cultivation the

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wasteland that are available in different parts of the country. The Ministry has a three-point programme for that. One is, the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme, the Second is, the Desert Development Programme, and the Third is the Drought-Prone area Development Programme. These programmes are being implemented in majority of the States except the States which have been notified as DPADP States or DPADP districts. They are confined to that. But with regard to IWDP, there is no such restriction. Wherever there is wasteland, we are taking care to see that watersheds are formed and the land is brought under cultivation. But, Sir, it is a big task and you need huge amounts of money. Depending on the availability of money, we are going ahead with these programmes.

Under the IWDP, Sir, for the information of hon. Member I can say that earlier, it was Rs. 4,000 per hectare. We have now increased it to Rs. 6,000 per hectare. We have received proposals from all the States; depending on the availability of money and the wasteland which can be reclaimed and put into use, we make allocations to different States and different State Governments are coming forward with proposals to the Centre and this money, which is there with the Centre, has been brought now to around Rs. 1,000 crores for the land development in various parts of the country. Earlier, it was only Rs. 300 crores. Now it is brought to Rs. 1,000 crores. Even this money of Rs. 1,000 crores is not sufficient. That is why, recently, we had a consultation with NABARD also. We want to have a certain amount of credit also into the system where watershed is taken up by the private people, availing the credit facility provided by the bank also. A Special Task Force has been set up for that purpose. They examining this aspect and different State Government, as I said, like the Tamil Nadu Government and other Governments, are also having plans to involve the private sector.

It is an initiative taken up at the State-level, because and being a State-subject they are free to take initiative in that regard. As far as we in the Government are concerned, the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme, the Desert Area Development Programme, and the Drought-Prone Area Development Programme are the programmes we have taken up and we are implementing them.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: I would like know from the hon. Member as to how much wasteland area is there in a country and how much fund is allocated for its development. Also, so many thousands of acres of wasteland are vested with the State Governments. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to give this to the unemployed youth for its development.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, around 365 lakh hectares of land are estimated to be available in the country and there are a variety of estimates. The NRSA estimate says that around 65 lakh hectares of land, treated as wasteland, is cultivable. For that the Government is implementing these programmes.

Secondly, with regard to allotting the Government wasteland to the unemployed youth, it is a policy to be decided by the State Governments. I for one, am inclined to accept that suggestion, because if they allow the land to be like that, it is better if some people can put it to use. The unemployed youth can also be made to participate in that. We have no objection. But, the matter has to be taken up by the State Governments.

The amount, as I have told, the total allocation to the Rural Development Ministry for the watershed programme, computerisation of land records, Wasteland Development, Drought-Prone Area Development Programme, is Rs. 1,000 crores, as on today.

SHRI M.V. RAJASHEKARAN: Sir, in the country large tract of wasteland is found. But, unfortunately, there is no integrated and holistic approach, as far as these programmes are concerned. Sir, what is needed? Of course, the hon. Minister has said and quoted a number of programmes, particularly to improve the condition of wasteland I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the ground situation? We have got a number of programmes in this country. If you can tabulate those programmes, India would stand on the top of the world, as far as the presentation of programmes are concerned. But, when it comes to implementation, there is very little you find, as far as the results are concerned. So, Sir, take, for example, a State like Karnataka, which has got the second largest—hon. Minister represent our State—arid land next to Rajasthan. I

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would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that the Government of Karnataka have submitted certain schemes to the Government of India and those schemes are still pending before the Government of India. This is my first supplementary.

Part (b) of my supplementary is: What is needed is watershed development and the rainwater harvesting programmes. May I know whether the Government has given the highest priority for watershed development and rainwater harvesting programmes? If 'so' what is the amount that has been earmarked, particularly at the national level to different States, with particular reference to Karnataka?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, we were discussing about Chhattisgarh. From there, we are moving to different parts of the country. I have no problem in responding to the supplementary raised by the hon. Member. The hon. Member has asked about the total coverage in Karnataka. It is 2,27,234 hectares of land has been sanctioned to the State of Karnataka for treatment.

Secondly, with regard to ground reality, I am not inclined to accept the sweeping observation made by the hon. Member that at the ground level, it is not being implemented at all. There may be certain shortcomings. I do admit. But, I can tell the hon. Member, with full confidence, that these programme are finally implemented by the State Governments and there are DRDAs. There are also project-implementing agencies. There are also well-organised NGOs in certain areas which are also getting involved in motivating the people and also implementing these projects. I am happy that the amount we are spending and the returns we are getting with regard to bringing back land for cultivation is very encouraging. If the hon. Member has got any specific complaint with regard to a specific district or a specific project he can sent it to me, I will, definitely, get that information, pass it on to the State, take a response from them and also make an enquiry, if necessary. But it is not fair to make a sweeping allegation that at the ground level, nothing is happening and money is going waste. That will be a sweeping observation.

With regard to the overall figure, as I had said, 37,22,675 hectares has been sanctioned so far for treatment.