

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 24th April, 2002/4 Vaisakha, 1924 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Members, based on the notice given by Dr. Manmohan Singh and others, I have admitted the following motion, under Rule 170 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha:

"That this House expresses deep anguish at the persistence of violence in Gujarat for over six weeks leading to loss of lives of a large number of persons, destruction of property worth crores of rupees, and urges the Central Government to intervene effectively under article 355 of the Constitution to protect the lives and properties of the citizens and to provide effective relief and rehabilitation to the victims of violence."

The discussion will take place on Thursday, the 2nd May, 2002.

Now, Q. No.441.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Water Scarcity in Secunderabad Cantonment Board area

*441. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:†
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a severe water crisis in the Secunderabad Cantonment Board area;

(b) if so, the reasons for irregularities in water supply in the Cantonment area; and

(c) the action proposed to solve the water problem there?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Water to the Cantonment area is supplied by Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB). Owing to repairs undertaken by HMWSSB of the main water pipe line and damages to their pumping system there was disruption in regular water supply which resulted in water scarcity problem not only to the Cantonment area in other areas of twin cities of Secunderabad and Hyderabad.

Secunderabad Cantonment Board has handed over a sum of Rs.63.32 lakhs towards connection charges to HMWSSB for increasing the quantum of bulk water supply from 27 lakhs gallons per day to 37 lakh gallons per day which will commence shortly. Cantonment Board is also executing a project for laying new distribution pipe lines to benefit 50 Housing colonies apart from digging 25 deep bore wells. This has been done in addition to the existing 110 electric bore wells and 700 hand pump bore wells for water supply to the residents of Cantonment area. This will mitigate the severe shortage of water to a large extent.

SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Sir, the population of Secunderabad Cantonment Board area is more than three lakhs. The people are facing great problems due to shortage of water supply, and the water that is supplied is very dirty. The water mains are very old, and, as a result, water from the sewer lines gets mixed up with the drinking water. What steps is the Government taking for ensuring adequate supply of clean water to the civilians and the people in the Cantonment Board area of Secunderabad?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, there is, essentially, shortage of water in Hyderabad and Secunderabad areas. The Cantonment Board gets its water supply from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, just as in the case of the twin cities. Now, the shortage of water supply is due to reasons that are beyond the control of anyone. The Cantonment Board has taken a lot of action to overcome this problem, in so far as the 2.5 lakh population of the Cantonment itself is concerned. What they have tried to do is, one, they are executing a new project costing Rs.84 lakhs, where they are laying new distribution lines from the Karkhana Reservoir up to the Jupiter Colony. I am

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sure, these names make sense to the hon. Member. This is expected to benefit 15 housing colonies, from Govindpalli to the Park View Colony, and it will also benefit 35 housing colonies, apart from the residents of the civil areas. The Board has also taken action to lay GI pipelines to the slum areas and for digging 25 electric deep bore wells in the seven Wards, to supplement the water supply to the residents. Another expenditure of Rs.98 lakhs has been incurred for this work, and this is in addition to the existing 110 electric bore wells and 700 handpump bore wells for supply of water to the residents of the Cantonment area.

SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO : Sir, the remaining part of my question will be asked by my hon. Colleague.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What?

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Sir, actually my name is also there. He is giving that to me. Sir, I hail from that area.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That I will give. (*Interruptions*) Don't Worry. I will give him the chance because his name is there. I only want to know whether you want to ask your second supplementary.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Sir, he is transferring that to me.

SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Yes, Sir. I have agreed to that.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKATAPPA NAIDU) : It is his native place, Sir.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister is partly correct. Sir, today, more than three lakh people are living in the seven wards of the Cantonment Board. During the last four years, I have spent nearly Rs. one crore from my MPLAD Scheme for augmenting the availability of drinking water in that area. The water pipelines which were laid about fifty or sixty years back are still continuing and they have not been replaced with the new pipelines. The Hyderabad Metro Water Works has been supplying about 30 lakh gallons of water to the Cantonment Board. Recently, when Shri Chandrababu Naidu, the hon. Chief Minister visited that area, he announced the allocation of additional seven lakh gallons of water, in order to augment the availability of water in that area. So I request the hon. Minister to get the old water pipelines replaced with new ones. Sir, crores of rupees are being allocated to the Cantonment Board by the Ministry of Defence, but these are not being spent properly. I want to know whether the hon. Minister would give instructions

to the Commander of the Secunderabad Cantonment Board Area to take up the work relating to laying of new water pipelines on war-footing.

Sir, part (b) of my question is this. I want to know whether the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence was *gheraoed* by the members of the Cantonment Board in Hyderabad recently asking him to dissolve the Cantonment Board and bring it into the mainstream of civilian area under the Municipal Corporation.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I have not been *gheraoed*.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, the Minister of State, Shri Krishnamraju was *gheraoed* by the Board members.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, he did not report it to me.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, the hon. Minister is here (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the suggestion made by the hon. Member is acceptable to me, and I will act accordingly.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, I want to put my second supplementary. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, No. (*Interruptions*) All right; you put your second supplementary.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, I am aware of the agony of the people living in that area as they are facing many difficulties. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the new water pipelines would be laid on war-footing. I also want to know whether they are going to dissolve the Cantonment Board so that the people to that area are brought into the mainstream of the Municipal Corporation. Sir, they have done it in the case of Ambala Cantonments. More than three lakh people are living in that area and for every small thing, they have to go to the Cantonment Board, which is showing negative attitude towards their problems.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, as I said earlier, I accept the suggestion made by the hon. Member, and I will act accordingly. I will see to it that whatever is within the capability of the Cantonment Board and whatever needs to be done, will be done.

श्रीमती भाया सिंह: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि हमारे देश में कुल कितने छावनी क्षेत्र हैं महोदय, अधिकतर उन छावनी क्षेत्रों की प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था आर्मी के हाथ में होती है। छावनी क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले आम नागरिकों की जो

परेशानियां हैं, उनको सुलझाने के लिए क्या कोई ऐसी योजना आपके पास है कि उनकी सहभागिता भी उसमें हो सके क्या कोई ऐसी योजना आपके बनाई है ?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I require a separate notice for this.

परती भूमि के विकास के लिए कृत्तिक बल

*442. श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह 'ललन':†

श्री कपिल सिब्बल:

कृषि ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में परती भूमि के विकास के लिए किसी कृत्तिक बल का गठन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कृत्तिक बल का गठन कब किया गया था; इसके सदस्य कौन-कौन हैं और भूमि सुधार क्षेत्र में उनकी योग्यताएं क्या-क्या हैं; और

(ग) इस कृत्तिक बल को अपनी सिफारिशों कब तक प्रस्तुत करने के लिए कहा गया है ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री (श्री एम० वेंकैया नायडू): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में भूमि संसाधन विभाग ने विशेष रूप से परती भूमि के विकास के लिए नहीं अपितु बंजरभूमि/वाटरशेड के विकास के लिए ग्रहण संस्थाओं से संयोजन (लिंगेज) हेतु एक कार्यदल का गठन किया है।

इस कार्यदल का गठन 6 मार्च, 2002 को किया गया है और इसकी संरचना निम्नानुसार है:

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| 1. | सचिव, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय | अध्यक्ष |
| 2. | अपर सचिव (भूमि संसाधन), ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय | सदस्य |
| 3. | अपर सचिव तथा वित्तीय सलाहकार, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय | सदस्य |
| 4. | मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, इंडियन बैंक्स एसोसिएशन, मुंबई | सदस्य |
| 5. | भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक का प्रतिनिधि | सदस्य |
| 6. | राष्ट्रीय कृषि तथा ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (नाबाई) का प्रतिनिधि | सदस्य |

†सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह 'ललन' द्वारा पूछा गया।