

this series has been introduced. As for its effectiveness, it was introduced only in March when Rs. 1 lakh have been subscribed. We expect that it will catch up in the coming months.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the hon. Minister of Finance will be able to tell the House how the money collected from these savings certificates during the month of March compares with the money collected in respect of other certificates during the month of March and whether this scheme, on account of that balance, shows any sign of catching on?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The other certificates must be having very large sales—I do not have the exact amount—because they are very well established. The total collection over the last year has been Rs. 148 crores. Therefore, even distributing *pro rata*, it will be much more. But my point is that with enough publicity and all this, this series also will catch up.

Shri Basumatari: May I know the amount collected by the Government of India from these certificates State-wise?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I want notice for that. This is a question of details.

Master Plan for Irrigation and Power

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- *1636. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Kolla Venkalah:
Shri Onkar Lal Borwa:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have planned a Master Plan for the whole of the country, for the development of irrigation and power potential;

(b) if so, the main features of the Plan; and

(c) the total cost of the Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) The Government of India are considering the preparation of a

perspective plan for 20 to 25 years for the development of the remaining irrigation and power potential in the country.

(b) and (c). The details have yet to be worked out.

Re. Starred Question No. 1644

Shri R. S. Pandey: May I request you, Sir, that question No. 1644 may also be taken up along with this?

Mr. Speaker: If it is convenient for the Minister to answer question No. 1657 also.....

Shri R. S. Pandey: Question No. 1644.

Mr. Speaker: That would be a different one.

श्री विश्व नाथ पाण्डेय : देश के अन्दर कृषि और उद्योग के विकास के लिये यह आवश्यक है कि मिचवाई और विद्युत् क्षमता का विकास सरकार अति शीघ्र करे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसकी समुचित व्यवस्था करने के लिये सरकार ने कोई अल्पकालीन योजना बनाने का विचार किया है।

Dr. K. L. Rao: Already plans are under action. We have taken sanction for a large number of projects, both irrigation and power, and they are being implemented.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : मन्त्री महोदय ने बतलाया कि सरकार बीस या पच्चीस वर्ष के लिये योजना बना रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस कमेटी की ओर से कोई अन्तर्ग्रिम रिपोर्ट सरकार को निकट समय में मिलने की सम्भावना है।

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is not long-term planning; it is a continuation of the present planning in order to exploit the full potential of the country in respect of irrigation and power.

Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: May I know whether it is a fact that due to the high rate of electricity, cultivators are feeling very much hesitant to utilise it and it is not used to its fullest capacity; if so, do the Govern-

ment realise that after the cultivators become electricity-minded by use of it at cheaper rates they may be in a position to pay higher rates subsequently?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I am afraid I will not be able to say that the people are not taking electricity because of high rates. On the other hand, we find quite a large amount of agitation for getting more and more electricity facilities. But, on the whole, we agree that, if it is possible, we should try to reduce the cost for agriculturists.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : पिछनी योजना को प्राप जाने दीजिये लेकिन जैसी योजना प्राप बना रहे हैं इस योजना में प्राप क्या यह कर सकेंगे कि किसानों को कुओं आदि के लिए जो बिजली मिलती है वह जब तक राज्य के सम्बन्धित कर्मचारियों को खूश नहीं करते जब तक कई सौ रुपये प्रापके राज्य कर्मचारी उन किसानों से नहीं ले लेते हैं तब तक उन्हें बिजली नहीं दी जाती है, तो क्या मन्त्री महोदय इस बात को धोर ध्यान देंगे कि किसानों को प्रासानी से बिजली मिल जाय और इसके लिए नाजायज तौर पर नौकरशाही को पैसा न देना पड़े ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: No, Sir. If any case is brought to our notice, we will take action.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : बहुत से मामले प्राते हैं लेकिन उन पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं होती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा है कि अगर ऐसे कोई केस हों तो उन्हें भेजें ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं पहले भी भेज चुका हूँ लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ । कहने को यहां मन्त्री जी कह देते हैं लेकिन वह अपने वायदों को पूरा नहीं करते हैं ।

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the hon. Minister would be able to give us a rough estimate of the cost involved in the Master Plan?

Dr. K. L. Rao: According to our calculations, it is expected that the power potential that we should attain by 1980 is 60 million K.W. which amounts to 50 million K.W. more than what we have now. That will cost Rs. 10,000 crores. Similarly, in irrigation sector, we have got to continue our present projects that we have already sanctioned. We have yet to exploit 24 million acres and the country can have 44 million acres under irrigation and that will require roughly about Rs. 5,000 crores. So, in the next few years, we have got a plan for spending Rs. 10,000 crores on power and Rs. 5,000 crores on irrigation.

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: In view of the fact that since 17 years the Central Government has failed to settle the water disputes, may I know whether, before framing the Master Plan, any steps, or any consideration in a Conference held recently, have been taken among various States to settle the disputes especially in respect of Godavari and Krishna waters?

Dr. K. L. Rao: A large number of disputes on the river waters have been settled. There are one or two disputes which also are being resolved in such a manner that the development of the State concerned is not hampered.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know whether lack of irrigation and backwardness of some particular areas due to insufficient irrigational measures would be one of the points for consideration while preparing the Plan?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is quite true that irrigation is one of the most important factors for agriculture.

Shri Swell: Is it a fact that in some areas like Assam, the generation of power does not bear any relation to the workload and, if so, why should it be so and what are the various steps that the Government are considering to overcome that difficulty arising from the absence of correlation?

Dr. K. L. Rao: We conduct, from year to year, the load surveys and we ascertain exactly what is the requirement and we plan accordingly to meet the requirement of electricity in various areas.

Shri Swell: That is a broad answer. My question was specific. I am asking whether it is a fact that in some areas like Assam, there is no correlation between the generation of power and the utilisation of that power.

Dr. K. L. Rao: In the case of Assam, there is a certain amount of power which was built up and it is for the Assam friends like the hon. Member to see that that power is utilised.

Shri S. Kandappan: Recently, the hon. Minister for Irrigation and Power stated that the Government was considering the necessity and advisability of taking some nine or a dozen large irrigation schemes. I would like to know whether these will be incorporated in the Master Plan and whether the much-talked-of Hogenakkal scheme will be one of them.

Dr. K. L. Rao: Of course, when the Plan is drawn up, the fact that some of the large projects may have to be accelerated will be taken into consideration. But I will not be able to say whether Hogenakkal project will be one of those that will be selected for consideration.

Shri Balakrishnan: When 20 farmers join together and put up an application asking for a new line, the Department people refuse to give permission for a new line. Such handicaps are there in the development of agriculture. May I, therefore, ask the Government to relax such rules, if there are any?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Where?

Shri Balakrishnan: In every State and especially in Madras State.

Dr. K. L. Rao: I must admit that there are a very large number of

applications for the rural electrification and, in fact, all the citizens of India seem to have taken to electricity for their agricultural operations. It is also true that with the present finances at our disposal, we are not able to satisfy all the people. But we make every effort in that direction.

Shri Balakrishnan: My question is that even when 20 farmers join together and put up an application, the Department people say, "No new line will be given".

Mr. Speaker: He is giving the information.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: While replying to the debate, the hon. Minister stated that the major schemes, the multi-purpose projects, will be taken over by the Centre. May I know what progress has been made regarding the Narmada project in view of the discussion the Minister held with the concerned State Chief Ministers?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): So far as the dispute regarding the Narmada project is concerned, I had recently been to Madhya Pradesh and had the opportunity of meeting the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and his experts. We know his viewpoint, the extent of his requirement and the basis on which this dispute can be settled. Now, I propose to visit Gujarat and also other concerned States. After all, if there is any point of difference, I would try to bring all the Chief Ministers concerned together....

Shri Jashvant Mehta: What is the reaction of the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister?

Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed: His reaction has been very good. He is going to be helpful in the settlement of the dispute in the larger interest of the country.

Shri Nath Pai: In reply to an earlier question, the Minister stated

that the development of other States with regard to the distribution of the waters of Krishna-Godavari will not be allowed to be hampered. He has been entertaining this hope, I think, sincerely, for a very long time and it is known that the distribution of this river system is very inequitable, one State having the benefit over others. May I know what his senior colleague proposes to do to resolve the dispute with a view to ensure that the river waters are equitably distributed between Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and also Maharashtra, if possible?

Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed: This matter has also been taken up by me in hand. I had recently visited Bombay to have a discussion with the Maharashtra Government and in a few days' time, I propose to go to Andhra Pradesh and then also to Mysore. After that, it will be my effort to have this dispute settled amicably by bringing together all the concerned Chief Ministers.

Ravine Lands

*1637. **Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Natural Resources Committee of the Planning Commission has recommended that in the course of next five years, the ravine lands of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat should be surveyed and reclamation of the areas started;

(b) whether suitable legislation is also proposed to be undertaken for implementation of the scheme; and

(c) the likely expenditure on the scheme?

The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta):

(a) Yes, Sir:

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Not yet estimated.

Shri Maheswar Naik: We have gone through three Five Year Plans.

May I know whether during all these years, the Planning Commission has done anything in this regard and also towards having a proper survey of the ravine lands?

Shri Asoka Mehta: The area is expected to be very large. It is of order of 3 million hectares. In the Third Plan, Rs. 50 lakhs were put aside for reclamation. As far as the survey is concerned, a comprehensive programme of survey has been drawn up and responsibilities distributed either on the Centre or on the States. I hope that the survey will be carried forward now.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know how much land was actually reclaimed and whether any legislation was necessary for that?

Shri Asoka Mehta: 20,000 acres of land have been reclaimed during the Third Plan.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: There is a ravine reclamation scheme in Gujarat on the river Mahi at Vasad. May I know whether the extensive ravines of the Narmada have been surveyed?

Shri Asoka Mehta: As I have pointed out already, in all about 3 million hectares have to be surveyed, and a detailed programme has been drawn up for the survey. I cannot say which particular area has already been surveyed and which particular area is still to be surveyed.

Shrimati Lakshmi Kantamma: May I know whether Government have enough machinery such as bulldozers and other things for the reclamation of these waste lands?

Shri Asoka Mehta: This programme of reclamation will have to be spread over a number of years, because the area involved is very large, and the expenditure involved would be enormous.