

whether any proposals have been received from Rajasthan Government to extend the scope of this lift channel to include Churu district also?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The lift channel is already included in the sanctioned project. But it has been under consideration to extend the lift channel more than what was intended originally. Originally it was to serve 2-1/2 lakh acres; now it is proposed to extend it to nearly 5 to 6 lakh acres. Regarding the inclusion of the Churu area, we have asked the State Government to investigate and see if there are any possibilities. We have not received any report so far. If any favourable report is received, naturally that also will be included.

Dr. Karni Singhji: May I know why in spite of the assurance given by the then Minister of Finance, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, that the Rajasthan Canal project would be taken over by the centre, the same was not done? May I know why the Finance Minister now wishes to visit Rajasthan Canal Project, and why it has been cancelled?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There have been some change of circumstances since the ex-Finance Minister visited the area. At that time it was thought that this project could be taken over by the Government of India, but the legal advice was that unless there are two States involved, for a single State an authority of the Government of India cannot be appointed. Therefore, this authority has to be appointed under the State. That is being considered. The present Finance Minister just wanted to acquaint himself with the work that is in progress in the Rajasthan Canal. His visit has nothing to do with the Rajasthan Canal Authority as such.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Banking in Rural Areas

*217. **Shri B. K. Das:**

Dr. M. M. Das:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the banking habits of the people even in rural areas are increasing very rapidly;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Postal Savings Banks and the few branches of the State Bank of India and some other Commercial Banks have been found to be inadequate for the need;

(c) if so, the steps taken to augment the banking facilities in rural areas; and

(d) whether the establishment of a separate National Savings Bank mainly to mobilise the resources in the rural areas is under consideration of Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Yes, Sir, as indicated by the growth in recent years of deposits in banking offices in rural and semi-urban areas.

(b) and (c). The State Bank and its subsidiaries and the commercial and co-operative banks have already about 2250 offices in rural and semi-urban areas. The number of branch Post Offices doing savings bank work, which function mostly in rural areas, is also now nearly 37,800. Further the State Bank, its subsidiaries and other commercial banks are implementing a branch expansion programme to cover as many unbanked areas as possible. The Co-operative banks and the Post Office Savings

Bank are also endeavouring to open more branches in rural areas.

(d) No, Sir.

Repayment of Foreign Loans

*218. **Shri Sezhiyan:** Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to comment made by a Member of the Planning Commission at the Export-Import Council held in Bombay on the 17th September, 1966 regarding the failure of the planning in respect of repayment of foreign aid;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment of the extent of the failure; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. At the meeting referred to, Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao, Member, Planning Commission, said that until now it had not been recognised sufficiently that if the country borrowed from abroad, interest payments and repayments of capital could be made only through more production and more exports.

(b) and (c). The question of failure of planning in regard to repayments of foreign aid does not arise, since the Government has not defaulted at any time in making the scheduled repayments. The problem of balance of payments in relation to planned development and the attainment of self-reliance has been studied from time to time particularly since the formulation of the Third Plan. The Draft Outline of the Fourth Plan lays particular stress on the attainment of self-reliance as early as possible, and sets out in detail, in chapter II, the measures that are proposed to be taken to attain this goal by the beginning of the Sixth Plan.

नगरीय विकास

* 219. श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी :

श्री प्र० चं० बरुआ :

श्री भागवत झा आजाद :

श्री स० चं० सामन्त :

डा० म० मो० दास :

श्री सुबोध हंसदा :

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त :

क्या निर्माण, आवास तथा नगरीय विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) यदि सरकार ने देश के नगरीय विकास के लिए कोई योजना बनाई है, तो उसकी मुख्य रूपरेखा क्या है ;

(ख) उनके मंत्रालय ने नगरीय विकास के लिए योजना आयोग से कितनी राशि की मांग की है और उपरोक्त योजना के अन्तर्गत कितनी राशि मंजूर की गई है ;

(ग) बम्बई, दिल्ली, कलकत्ता और मद्रास के विकास के लिए अनुमानित कितनी राशि नियत की गई है और शेष नगरों के लिए राज्य वार कितनी राशि खर्च की जायेगी ; और

(घ) क्या उस योजना के अन्तर्गत केवल बड़े नगर आते हैं अथवा वे सभी नगर भी इस में शामिल हैं जिनमें नगरपालिकाएं, नगर क्षेत्र समितियां तथा अधिमूचित क्षेत्र समितियां स्थापित की गई है ?

निर्माण, आवास तथा नगरीय विकास मंत्री (श्री मेहर चन्द लाला) : (क) चौथी योजना में उन 75 मास्टर प्लानों/रीजनल प्लानों के पूरा हो जाने की उम्मीद है जिन पर कि तीसरी योजना में काम शुरू हो गया था। इसके अलावा 52 पहले दर्जे के तथा 105 दूसरे दर्जे के शहरों तथा 49 टूरिस्ट/तीर्थ स्थानों के लिए मास्टर प्लान बनाने का काम शुरू करने का इरादा है।

(ख) इस काम के लिए 70 करोड़ रुपया मांगा गया था लेकिन 28 करोड़