

(b) if so, where and what is the estimated cost of the same?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know if the Government is thinking of setting up a new barrage for supply of water to the lower areas?

Mr. Speaker: I think he has answered; no new barrage.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: No other barrage is under consideration or under contemplation.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know what decision the D.V.C. or the Government has taken with regard to the Aiyar dam?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: The Aiyar dam is under discussion and is being examined for the purpose of being taken up.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Have the views of the West Bengal Government been ascertained with regard to the Aiyar dam?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Most certainly.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know what views have been expressed by the West Bengal Government?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: No, no; that stage has not yet arrived.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: In view of.....

Mr. Speaker: No, no. The hon. Minister and the hon. Member were too quick to each other and the House. The hon. Minister has said certainly the views of the West Bengal Government will be ascertained. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri asked the question whether their views have been ascertained. The answer implies that they have not been ascertained. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri did not evidently follow the answer, and, therefore, he asked the other question.

Shri Nagi Reddy: In view of the fact that the expenditure incurred by the D.V.C. has not yet been divided as between irrigation, power and other things, may I know whether Government are not going to take up any other project under the D.V.C. before this is done?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Both the things will be done, that too and this one also.

Shri Nagi Reddy: In view of the fact that a long time has been taken already for the division of these assets, may I know whether Government will make up their mind at least in the coming three months?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Yes, it already being expedited.

Shri Nagi Reddy: Expedited for ten years.

सफदरजंग अस्पताल में मृत्यु की घटना

*२२५०-क. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि २६ मार्च, १९५९ को जब संतोख राम नामक एक व्यक्ति नई दिल्ली के सफदरजंग हस्पताल में दवाई लेने के लिये गया तो उसे दवाई के स्थान पर कारबालिक एसिड दे दिया गया जिसके परिणामस्वरूप उसकी मृत्यु हो गई;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह घटना किन परिस्थितियों में हुई; और

(ग) इसके लिये उत्तरदायी कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) और (ख). नई दिल्ली के सफदरजंग अस्पताल में २५ मार्च, १९५९ को सन्तोर्खासिंह नामक एक व्यक्ति की मृत्यु

हुई। पुलिस अधिकारी मामले की जांच कर रहे हैं।

(ग) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

An Hon. Member: In English also.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Karmarkar: (a) and (b). A person named Shri Santokh Singh died in the Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi, on the 25th March, 1959. The matter is under investigation by the Police authorities.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् माननीय मंत्री महोदय के उत्तर से यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि उस व्यक्ति की मृत्यु किस कारण से हुई है। कौन उसके लिए जिम्मेदार था, ग्रह प्रश्न तो बाद में उठता है, लेकिन किस कारण से मृत्यु हुई, क्या इसका भी पता नहीं लगाया गया है?

श्री करमरकर : चूंकि मामला पुलिस के हाथों में है इस वास्ते जब तक जांच खत्म नहीं हो जाती तब तक मैं कुछ कहना नहीं चाहता था। एनिवेशन यह है

Since this is a rather important question, I should like to tell the House the actual position. Since the matter was under police investigation, I thought it proper not to give further details in order not to prejudice that inquiry. But the allegation is this. Earlier, the patient came at about 10 p.m. for back-ache treatment, and he was brought by one Rishilal, Nursing Orderly in the Safdarjang Hospital. Dr. S. K. Kundu, casual medical officer, who was on duty, examined Shri Santokh Singh and prescribed aspirin powder and soda salicylate mixture. Immediately after this, the medical officer had to attend to another emergency case. It is alleged that Shri Rishilal, Nursing Orderly, took a bottle which contained pure carbolic acid, lying on the surgical dressing table, and

poured its contents down the throat of the patient Shri Santokh Singh; the patient took seriously ill. That is the allegation, and that is now under inquiry.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमान्, यह प्रकसर देखा गया है कि पुलिस की जो इन्क्वायरी होती है, उसमें महीनों लग जाते हैं। अतः मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी हासत में क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने इस सम्बन्ध में कोई विभागीय कार्रवाई उनके विरुद्ध की है, या करने का विचार कर रहे हैं?

श्री करमरकर : पुलिस की कार्रवाई को जल्दी करवाने की मैं कोशिश करूँगा।

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: It is under police investigation. What do the hon. Members want?

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The compounder gives medicine generally, but here was an orderly giving medicine.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The orderly was giving the medicine. That is the point.

Mr. Speaker: The orderly brought the man, he took the man to the doctor, the doctor gave a prescription, but the orderly went out of the way and poured carbolic acid down the throat of that man. (Interruptions.) I am not saying one way or the other; it is none of my business. All that I am anxious to see in this House is this. As soon as an answer to a question is given, and there is nothing more reasonable to be asked for, I proceed to the next question. That is my business. The hon. Minister has said once and has said twice that the matter is under investigation. I have already allowed three questions to be asked by Shri Bhakt Darshan.

It is clear from the statement of the hon. Minister that this was what that orderly did. The hon. Minister is not justifying the action of the

orderly. The orderly must have taken the man to the compounder and then got the medicine. The compounder was not available; in that case, the doctor himself must have been asked to dispense the medicine. But that man who brought the patient killed him. Evidently, that is what the allegation is. This is a matter which is under investigation. Therefore, let nothing be done here to prejudice that investigation.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: At least, departmental action should be taken against that orderly.

Mr. Speaker: Even if departmental investigation is made, that cannot overrule the police investigation, when murder is involved; it is murder or something of that kind, or it may be an accident or it may be anything. Even if they should conduct a departmental inquiry, it ought not to be an open one. Hon. Members know what the law is. Therefore, let nothing be done here to prejudice the investigation.

Shri Karmarkar: A specific question has been asked. So, with your permission, I should like to add that immediately after this happened, the medical superintendent informed the police; he has also ordered a departmental inquiry into the death of Shri Santokh Singh. So, all possible steps have been taken.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members may be very much interested in this. There is no doubt about it. But the hon. Minister cannot say what the departmental inquiry is. If he says that according to the departmental inquiry, that man is absolved, that will prejudice the police inquiry. Hon. Members do not seem to appreciate the delicacy of the situation. They must leave it at that stage.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Was not post mortem conducted and the cause of the death known?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, you were entirely right in the matter. In fact, you have anticipated what the fact is. The inquiry committee has not yet finalised its report, pending the report of the police authorities. So, what you say is entirely correct.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: All the hon. Members should not rise like this. Shall I ask Shri T. B. Vittal Rao to put his question or should I ask Shri Nagi Reddy to put his question or allow all the questions to be put together?

Hon. Members want to know whether a post mortem examination has been held.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice about that. It is not in my brief. I shall make inquiries immediately and let the House know at the earliest moment.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Sir, you were just now mentioning, and the hon. Minister also was mentioning, the rules regarding departmental inquiry. The rules that govern a departmental inquiry are the Civil Services (Conduct, Classification and Appeals) Rules, which definitely state:

“The charged Government servant's written statement of defence should ordinarily be required to be submitted within a period of a fortnight and in no case should a period of more than a month be allowed for the purpose.”

May I know whether these rules are observed by Government when they carry out the departmental inquiry?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, we definitely observe the rules.

Shri Tyagi: In all the Ministries?

Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute

*2252. **Shri Hariah Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ad hoc agreement on canal waters has been accepted by the Government of Pakistan;