

the land is fertile enough to grow fruit bearing trees?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Even last year's allocation has not been utilised fully. Last year, the allocation was Rs. 4 lakhs and this year, it was Rs. 27 lakhs. If she can make more efforts, I am with her and will provide more funds.

SHRI ANKUSHRAORAO SAHEB TOPE: The Government of Maharashtra has launched such a scheme for which a provision of Rs. 100 crores has been made by them. The State Government is providing 50 per cent subsidy to the marginal farmers for this work. Will the Central Government also launch such a scheme so that more fruit bearing trees could be grown?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have already congratulated the people and the Government of Maharashtra for showing the way. Under the irrigation scheme, they are providing 50 per cent subsidy for drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation. We have made the largest contribution for that scheme. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I used to be the Speaker of Lok Sabha at that time. I have also made contribution to that scheme. It is necessary that we all should contribute for proper implementation of that scheme. I am making every effort in this regard.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government scheme for planting fruit bearing trees in rural areas for which survey work was done by the department is very ineffective. Schemes are launched for growing fruit bearing trees in places where the chances of growing trees are remote. I would like to know whether centres would be opened at divisional level in every state for rearing fruit trees and for surveying the areas where such trees could be grown?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The State Governments are my resources. I want to reach the people through them. It depends on them as to how much work they can extract from their Agriculture Ministry and engage their people to work at divisional

level. We are ready to provide what we from here.

Scheme for identification of non-irrigated land

*103. **SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to conduct survey for identification of the non-irrigated land in various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is publishing on year to year basis Land Use Statistics which inter-alia include the State-wise details of irrigated lands, total cropped area, total culturable area. According to the latest available Land Use Statistics for the year 1987-88, out of the gross sown area of 172881 thousand hectares, gross irrigated area is 52216 thousand hectares which is about 33% of the gross sown area. The remaining area is un-irrigated.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is publishing land use statistics on year to year basis. I am distressed to say that the figures given here by the Minister related to 1987-88. Actually, he should have given the figures for 1990-91. If they were not available, he should have given the figures for 1989-90. According to the figures, the hon. Minister has said that there is 33 per cent gross irrigated area in the country. I have asked about the un-irrigated land in the country. The hon. Minister has replied..

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question. You are repeating the same thing

what the hon. Minister stated in his reply.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of the land area of 22214 thousand hectares in Madhya Pradesh, the total irrigated area is only 3,000 hectares and the same is the position with regard to the entire country. I would like to know what steps the Government is going to take to approve the schemes sent by the State Governments for irrigating the unirrigated land and particularly, what is being done for the schemes of Madhya Pradesh so that there is an increase in the irrigated area and the country can become self-reliant in food grains through green revolution.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me clarify the point, I have made in the reply. The gross irrigated area is 33 per cent. That is the sown area and the remaining is unirrigated area. I cannot say what is the share of Madhya Pradesh in it. I can only say this much that out of the total irrigation schemes sent by the Madhya Pradesh Government, in most of the cases either full data was not given or the information furnished was not correct or there was no information about the action taken for environment or for rehabilitating the people. They were sent back to the State Government for doing the needful so that further action could be taken on them.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: The unirrigated area in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh is 22 lakhs, 10 lakhs, 9 lakhs and 6 lakh hectares respectively. If irrigation facilities could be made available for these areas, there would have been an additional production of 200 lakh tonnes of foodgrains and the country could earn Rs. 3,000 crores out of it. The practice of giving exaggerated figures by the department is not proper. When we come to reality we find that the actual production was very less. What efforts are being made by the Government to remove this disparity?

MR. SPEAKER: Is anything being done to rectify the mistakes in the figures?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, sir, these figures are prepared very carefully. They are not provided by any one agency. I would like to say that if there is any shortcoming in these figures, it is that they are not up-to-date and relate to 1987-88. As this data is collected from different States, it is thoroughly checked.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: The figures of 1987 have been given whereas 1991 is going to end now. I would like to know as to what plannings are being made on its basis as some States are small and some are large and their schemes also differ. Some are minor and some are major. Then how to take a decision.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these figures have been worked out after they were sent by the State Governments. On their basis, we make an assessment and prepare the future scheme. We will make efforts to collect more figures as soon as possible so that the scheme can be implemented. But we have to depend on a number of agencies, due to which, we are delayed. Even then, we prepare the schemes on the basis of data provided to us every year.

[English]

SHRI RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Sir, we are aware that there are certain drought prone areas in the country, especially in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra. In these drought prone areas the rainfall is less than 90 inches. We all appreciate that where the rainfall is abundant, even without irrigation crops can come up. Whereas in these drought prone areas, concrete efforts will have to be made from the Government side to see that the irrigation facilities are given at least for protective irrigation. So, my question here is this.

Will the Government create some statutory bodies for these drought prone areas wherein some special funds be provided by the Government so as to make

the major irrigation facilities available to them and also for lifting water to these drought prone areas?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The fact is that there are drought prone areas in this country. Our policy is to provide them irrigation facilities on a priority basis. But it is not necessary to have a statute or a law for providing irrigation facilities on a priority basis to these drought prone areas.

As a matter of policy this can be done and this is being done.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said it clearly that there is no scope for distorting the figures as it is taken from different agencies. In this context, I would like to say that there is 35 per cent irrigated land and 68 per cent unirrigated land in the country. Out of that the command area is fixed on the basis of the per centage fixed for irrigation. 20 per cent land remains unirrigated but it is also included in the command area. Thus that unirrigated land is also taken to be irrigated. So it is clear from it that the figure is distorted one. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether there is any such agency which has given a report excluding that 20 per cent from the command area.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is like as to how much water is in the tank.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Does the hon. Member know that whenever we give figures regarding irrigation we take only 75 per cent dependable irrigation in our account. We exclude 25 per cent from these figures. So, there is no possibility of distortion of figures in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI SHANKAR RAO KALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the percentage of irrigation at the national level is thirtythree. As far as Maharashtra is concerned, it is very less.

Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to give more funds to Maharashtra for increasing the percentage of irrigated land to bring at par with the national level?

MR. SPEAKER: You want the Central Government to control them?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: We give grants to various States on the basis of the projects that are received by us and the work done by the various State Governments. Maharashtra is one of those States which receives grants from the Central Government in this respect.

The hon. Member has pointed out that Maharashtra Government has done a lot of work in this regard which I agree. We will certainly help them in this regard.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the projects of irrigation department started between 1971 and 1980, are mainly located in the Chottanagpur and Santhal Pargana of Bihar. Prior to execution of these projects there was 10 per cent irrigation facility in those areas but now it has come down to 6 per cent after execution of these projects. The State Government has stated in its reply that one third of total unirrigated land is in Chottanagpur and Santhal Pargana only. The main reason of this according to the State Government is that... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question. This is a question of the whole country not of Chottanagpur only.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reasons for per centage of the irrigation coming down instead of increasing. Although, the irrigation schemes are being implemented for a long time in Chhotanagpur and Santhal Pargana yet there is no improvement in the situation. Besides, the State Government complains that it does not get adequate funds from the Central Government, due to which the State Government could not complete those

projects. So I would also like to know the reasons for non-allocation of funds to the State Government on the basis of schemes.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, what are the reasons for decrease in the percentage of Irrigation in Chottanagpur.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of Bihar is a unique in itself in the whole country. So, certainly I would try to find out the reasons for decrease in the percentage of irrigation in that area despite implementation of new projects there. In regard to the second question put by the hon. Member I would like to say that this is not correct that the Central Government sanctions very little account as grants to the State Government, due to which State Government is facing difficulty in execution of those projects.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to this question it has been stated by the Government that the figure regarding irrigation is prepared after excluding 25 per cent in the command areas or the irrigated areas. It means that the Government itself admits that 25 per cent lands of the command areas remain unirrigated. So I would like to know whether the Government would consider to waive of the irrigation cess or revenue levied on that 25 per cent unirrigated land?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Irrigation cess is levied by the State Government.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: He is asking about the general policy.

[Translation]

I would not like to comment on this because cess is levied by the State Government. There are certain provisions in the agreement made with the farmers or the cultivators in the command area, which are required to be followed. I think wherever such agreement is made there are Irrigation Panchayats and everything is done according

to that agreement. To levy the tax or not to levy is a state subject. Hence, I am not in a position to say anything regarding that.

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our State Maharashtra the irrigated area is even less than 20 per cent. In the rural and hilly areas it is even less than 2 per cent. Keeping such circumstances in view, whether Government propose to conduct a special survey there?

MR. SPEAKER: In view of the lack of irrigation facility in Maharashtra do you propose to conduct any special survey there?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: On the basis of the question put by the hon. Member I will try to find out the facts and if found necessary certainly a special survey will be conducted.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply to a supplementary question stated that they consider only 75 per cent of command areas to be dependable irrigation areas. In reply to another supplementary question he said that as far as the question of waiving of irrigation cess is concerned it is a state subject and Central Government has nothing to do with it. It is decided according to the agreement reached between farmers and the State Government which provides irrigation facilities. Sir, since irrigation is a subject in the concurrent list, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Central Government would consider to issue some directives and guidelines to the State Governments for providing reliefs and benefits to the peasants of the command areas in general and those of the unirrigated areas in particular and for making such agreement under which revenue could be collected only from the irrigated land-holders not from those of unirrigated land and agreement between farmers and State Government should also be based on it.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, irrigation is not a subject in the

concurrent list. If the hon. Member makes his efforts to bring it into the concurrent list, then I will do my best whatever he wants in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: On the one side we are fighting for Cauvery waters in three States and on the other side the water is not available there. The water of Tapi river is not being fully utilised and the normal practice is to construct dams near the State where the river starts. On Tapi river it is the reverse case. The dam built on Tapi river is near Kakrapara because of some political reasons and the dam which was proposed in Khanjaguti and Navatha has not been started.

MR. SPEAKER: This is about unirrigated land in the entire country, not about a particular dam as such.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I want to know the policy of the Central Government about dams which are involved in inter-State financing. Khanjaguti and Navatha are having inter-State financing.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the policy of the Government of India, with respect to the financing of inter-State projects?

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: The Madhya Pradesh Government says that it is bordering seven States and that is why it is not able to contribute for the construction of Khanjaguti and Navatha projects.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Inter-state projects are taken up normally after an agreement between the States concerned and if there is agreement we take up such useful projects and complete them in time.

[*Translation*]

Bisalpur Project In Rajasthan

*104 **SHRI RAM BADAN:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ongoing Bisalpur project

(Tonk). In Rajasthan has been approved by the Union Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether environmental survey of this project has been conducted;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government have accorded approval to the use of land for the construction of roads for the project;

(f) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding the project; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):

(a) and (b). No, Sir. The modified Bisalpur Project Report estimated to cost Rs. 328 crores comprising water supply and irrigation components has been received only in November, 1991 in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(c) and (d). The State Government has entrusted the work of preparation of status report and action plan for environment and ecology to the Centre for Management studies, Harish Chand Mathur Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration.

(e) As the project is executed by the State Government, proposals for acquisition of land are not required to be looked into by the Union Government.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

SHRI RAM BADAN: Sir, the hon. Minister's reply is not satisfactory. This project was to be completed by June 1991 i.e. in five years. Its estimated cost was Rs. 52 crore in the beginning. But upto now Rs. 55 crore and 8 lakhs have been expended and even