

(iv) **Schemes for providing drinking water facilities in Rajasthan during Seventh Plan**
SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN
 (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the drinking water problem is acute in the Thar desert areas of Rajasthan, particularly in most of the villages in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts despite the fact that the State and the Central Governments have spent crores of rupees on drinking water schemes.

There is no source of water in one third area in these districts and in the remaining two-third area, water is either brackish or is available in meagre quantity. Even where tube-wells have been sunk, very little water is forthcoming. These tubewells are likely to stop supplying water after about twenty-five years due to excessive use of water. Then the situation will deteriorate further.

Therefore, permanent solution to drinking water problem for the increasing population of this area does not lie in sinking tube-wells or digging of wells.

Permanent solution to the problem of supplying drinking water to the human beings and livestock of such a vast area can be found only through Rajasthan Canal or Indira Canal.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Central and State Governments to provide drinking water facilities to about 2000 villages in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts as well as to the cities of Jodhpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Pokharan, Shergarh, Balotra and Falodi of Rajasthan by according approval to Pokharan lift Canal, Kolayal Lift Canal, and Mohangarh-Barmer Lift Canal, Lilwa Branch which is also known as Sagarmal Gopa Canal during the Seventh Five Year Plan and thereby provide a permanent solution to the drinking water problem to the Thar desert area of Rajasthan State.

[English]

(v) **Need to adopt permanent measures to eradicate famine in chronic drought prone areas**

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY
 (Hindupur) : Many areas in the country are chronically drought affected. People in these areas suffer incessantly from recurrence of famine. Scantily and erratic rainfall results in unprecedented droughts throwing the people into object misery. Only temporary steps are taken to ameliorate the sufferings of the people. No permanent steps are contemplated and implemented so as to save the people from ravages of successive famines.

Hence, Central Government may formulate and implement a comprehensive plan for permanent eradication of famine to release as many people and as much area from the menace of recurring famine. The following steps may be considered for permanent eradication of famine :—

1. Devise ways and means to improve irrigation in these areas.
2. Establish as many industries—agro-based and mineral based to create more gainful employment.
3. Improvement of the underground water by constructing percolation tanks, check dams etc. and improvement of the existing tanks and irrigation wells.
4. Special drive for afforestation.
5. Provide electricity for agriculture.
6. Improve transport facilities from villages to the market place.
7. Provide education to all children from these areas.

13.00 hrs.

(vi) **Need to withdraw Notification and the Bill seeking to withdraw the exemption of excise duty on hand-made detergent products in the interest of promoting the growth of Small Scale Industries**

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Visnupur) : Sir, it is a matter of great regret that while the Government of India is committed to the policy of encouraging small scale industries in various fields and to protect them from unequal competition from big industries by extending various concessions like exemption from excise duty and other facilities, they have recently taken series of steps which undermine the above policy and withdraw the facilities given to small scale industries. For example, very recently, the Government have reportedly withdrawn the exemption of excise duty on hand-made detergent cakes, powder, acids, slurry etc., affecting the small scale manufacturers of soaps and detergents. It appears that a notification to this effect has already been issued with effect from 1-8-1985 and a Bill has also been introduced to remove the exemption in the current Session of Parliament.

Withdrawal of the concessions offered to the small scale industries will force them to compete with big business. This policy will mean death knell to small scale industries.

I urge upon the Government of India to withdraw and the said notification and

the Bill introduced in Parliament seeking to withdraw the exemption of excise duty on hand made detergent products in the larger interest of country's indigenous economic growth. As the matter is quite serious, I call upon the Government to take immediate action.

- (vii) Extending the same benefits to the Educational and Vocational Guidance Counsellors working in various Government Schools in Delhi as are provided to all other categories of teachers employed in Government Schools

SHRI K.J. ABBASI (Domariaganj) : Sir, various benefits like enhancement of age to 60 years, selection grade, stagnation increments, medical allowance etc., have been granted to all categories of teachers working in the Government schools in Delhi. The benefits have not, so far, been given to the Educational and Vocational Guidance Counsellors working in the same schools. The E.V.G. Counsellors, in addition to guidance work, also take regular periods in schools like other categories of teachers. They are very much involved in the process of teaching.

Since these benefits have also been granted to Librarians and Laboratory Assistants, who are not engaged to teaching process, there is no justification in excluding the E.V.G. Counsellors working in the same schools.

I request the hon. Education Minister to kindly look into the matter and rectify the gross injustice done to the Counsellors.

- (viii) Incentives to protection staff employed in Archaeological Survey of India to stop pilferage of archaeological relics

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar) : Sir, encroachment of properties owned by the Archaeological Survey of India and the pilferage of archaeological relics has assumed alarming proportions. Considering the meagre emolument received by the protection staff, giving incentives

is the only solution. Reply to my Unstarred Question No. 344, dated the 14th August, 1985 totally denies any such incentives and therefore the need to evolve giving such special facilities.

13.04 hrs.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE
(AMENDMENT) BILL-*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Indrajit Gupta—not present.

Shri Haroobhai Mehta.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, all the hon. Members have gone for Lunch because they thought that the Bill would be taken up after 2 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Even the subject may come to an end at any time. How can we say that? We cannot predict that it will come only at 2 p.m.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Between 1 & 2 is the Lunch Hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is why, I asked the House about dispensing with Lunch Hour. Everybody agreed. Nobody dissented to it. Therefore, there is no point in asking for now. Now, we are to continue the discussion on this Bill.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : Sir, the extension of the life of Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 is hardly a matter of pleasure for me and I am sure that the same must be the feeling of the hon. Minister who piloted the Bill. However, we come across situations in which certain measures not quite suited to our liking have got to be pursued. Undoubtedly, the provisions contained in the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) are drastic to some extent.