

(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. Scantly 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