

[Shri Somnath Rath]

Previously, some villages which are situated on the banks of rivers are supplied water through pipe lines. Will that be taken into consideration? Further, in Orissa the coastal areas we get only the saline water. Orissa is invaded either by drought or by flood every year and also is inhabited by 38% of Adivasis and Harijans besides backward people. Will the Minister give special attention to Orissa and provide more funds?

The hon Minister of State has also announced in the other House that the money allotted for the drinking water is diverted to other areas. Will the Hon. Minister take specific interest in this matter and instruct the State Government to utilise the money for the same purpose?

18.12 hrs.

DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATIONAL 1986.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SARI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Draft National Policy on Education 1986 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. Lt-2608/86].

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION--CONTD.

[Translation]

Technological Mission for Drinking Water

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per your directive, I would straight away put the questions.

How is it that the Technology Mission is being set up after a period of 38 years of independence; why did you keep silent all these years.

18.14 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH in the Chair]

Ever since the First Five Year Plan was launched it has been said that all our development works would be completed under the five Year Plans. Assurances have been given many times in this regard. You have said that all such works will be completed by 1999. Could it be true in view of the fact that the drinking water problem has not been solved in the past 38 years in spite of assurances given in this regard; and why has the Technology Mission been set up after 38 years? I hope you are not misleading the people. The people living in Delhi and other areas get 100 litres of water per head, but what is the per capita availability in the rural areas? Kindly tell us the average quantum of water being supplied in those areas. Thirdly, why was it decided to grant certain allocations for the urban areas during the recent State Conference? The towns and cities have their own municipalities and corporations and should, therefore implement their schemes themselves. Funds to the tune of crores of rupees are allocated for the urban areas because they are very vocal but funds are denied to the rural areas because they are not so vocal and cannot project their demands. Why should only the urban people get more water and more allocations? Kindly tell us how much of water do the people living in the rural areas get per head? You should stop providing for the urban areas. Shri Ghafoor has already sanctioned Rs. 66 crores to them. I do not understand what you are saying. You are very experienced and an expert in giving answers. You should be assigned the task of giving all the replies. I bow to your acumen in this respect. However, I could not understand your reply... (Interruptions) Mr. Bhagat has also joined hands. Whatever, was lacking till now, has been made good. Now there are three stalwarts—Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh.

In reply to one of my questions, it was stated that by making use of low cost technology, alternative but effective methods would be found to tackle the problem of capital intensive rural drinking