

more kilometers are you going to cover by electrification in the 7th Plan?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: We have covered 6500 route kilometers and on a very rough and ready basis you can doubt it to track kilometers. We are planning to electrify another 3400 route kilometers in the 7th Plan. And with the subsequent new plans that we have made, maybe we are able to cover another 5000 to 6000 kilometers in the next decade.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a portion of the railway line referred to by the hon. Member comes under my constituency also. When the electrification work was going on, a lot of thefts and corrupt practices were being indulged into about which I wrote to the former Railway Minister. But no action was taken. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why no action was taken to identify and punish the guilty officials despite so many complaints?

SHRI MADAV RAO SCINDIA: If the hon. Member discloses the year to which it relates, I can say something.

MR. SPEAKER: You write to the hon. Minister again.

[*English*]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: The hon. Minister has stated in reply that the Baroda-Ratlam electrification project was approved in 1979-80. But may I know what was the estimated cost at the time of approval and what was the time schedule and whether it was completed within the time schedule and if not, what were the reasons.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, if he is referring to the time schedule, the time schedules were probably not laid down at that time. If he is referring to the financial schedules, it is going to cost appx. Rs 35 crores and by the time it will be completed it

will cost us Rs 93 crores.

Navodaya Vidyalayas In West Bengal

*250. **SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the essential requirements to be initially fulfilled in order to start a Navodaya Vidyalaya;

(b) whether the West Bengal Government has agreed to the concept of Navodaya Vidyalayas to be set up in West Bengal; and

(c) if not, the steps Union Government propose to take to start them in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) It is proposed to start a Navodaya Vidyalaya in every district of the country by 1990. For this an offer of about 30 acres of land is expected. Since the Navodaya Vidyalayas do not have their own buildings to begin with, an offer of suitable buildings is also to be made.

(b) and (c). The details of the scheme have been conveyed to the various State Govts./UTs, including West Bengal. They have also been discussed with State/UT Govts. in various fora. The Government of West Bengal has not made any proposal so far for establishment of Navodaya Vidyalayas in the State.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Sir, I understand from the answer given by the Minister that the West Bengal Government has not agreed to the establishment of the Navodaya Vidyalayas. Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, how many States in India have so far not agreed to establishments of the Navodaya Vidyalayas? In view of the fact that it is proposed to have one such vidyalaya in

every district in the country by 1990, the time at the disposal of the Government is not very much.

Secondly, I would also like to know that as the State Governments of West Bengal and other States have not agreed to establish Navodaya Vidyalaya so far, what is the thinking of the Central Government about establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas in those States? .

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has rightly said that Navodaya Vidyalayas are proposed to be started in all the States by the year 1990. Excepting in three States—Tamil Nadu, Assam and West Bengal—Navodaya Vidyalayas have been opened in all the States. The Government of India have been in constant touch with the Government of West Bengal. Since the time this scheme was started, the details thereof were sent to all the States including West Bengal, but no proposal has been received from them so far. There have been a number of talks between the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development who went there and exchanged views with the Chief Minister. Earlier also contacts were established with the Education Minister and the Education Secretary of West Bengal. But when no proposal was received, we thought it better not to do anything *ex-parte*. Rather keeping their sentiments in view, we thought we would do something only when a proposal was received from them. We have received an offer for land from some private persons and the same has been sent to the Government of West Bengal for their comments.

[*English*]

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Sir, I would like to thank the Minister for her frank answer. I would also like to know from the Minister that in view of the fact that about 30 acres of land is required for establishing one Navodaya Vidyalaya, is there any contem-

plation on the part of the society that has been established for this Navodaya Vidyalaya to include donors category in the Managing Committee of the Vidyalaya because a person who donates such a huge amount of land would likely to have some representation in the Managing Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, the Navodaya Vidyalaya scheme, as it has been finalised, has been sent to all the State Governments. This is not the final word. But we would like to be careful and cautious in going ahead with a new scheme like this. As we go along and as we gain experience, it may be found possible to diversify and add other elements also in it. But right now, it is a Government of India sponsored scheme, run by the society. We do not require the permission of the State Governments. We can start the schools right away. But we have considered it more appropriate to talk to the State Governments and get their cooperation in this. We do hope that we will be able to get the cooperation. We would not like to anticipate non-cooperation just now.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in her reply has said that it is proposed to start a Navodaya Vidyalaya in every district by 1990. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if there are proposals with the Government to open Navodaya Vidyalayas in Madhya Pradesh? Have they given their consent to it and whether the proposal includes Chhatarpur district also? Is she also aware that the Chhatarpur administration has given an assurance to extend full cooperation in this regard to their demand for land. Will the hon. Minister please sanction a Navodaya Vidyalaya for Chhatarpur district on priority basis?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wants to know about Madhya Pradesh. I would like to

tell her that in a year 1986-87, there were recommendations for 6 places in Madhya Pradesh and for the year 1987-88, more recommendations have also been received. If she wants to know the names of the places, I shall tell her later.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when a Navodaya Vidyalaya is likely to be started in Begusarai and why there is delay in starting it?

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: I want to ask a question.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing doing. No please. I am not going to be bamboozled in this way.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that sanction has been accorded for Begusarai and it will start functioning by the next session.

[English]

Diverslon of Flood Water of North India to South India

*251. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have got any proposals to make use of flood waters of North India by diverting it to drought affected areas of South India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: This

shows the negative attitude of the Government towards drought-affected States of South India. All the South Indian States are now ruled by the Opposition Parties and that is why the hon. Minister is always in a negative mood... (*Interruptions*)

During the tenure of Late Dr. K.L. Rao, there was a proposal for linking Ganga and Cauvery and also inter-linking of all the rivers. I want to know whether that proposal still exists or not. I would like to have a categorical answer.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, may I remove the unreasonable misunderstanding in the mind of the hon. member who thinks that I am always negative in the case of the opposition-ruled States. I myself come from the South, from Karnataka..... (*Interruptions*)

Naturally, I cannot be parochial. My interests cannot be regional. They will only be national.

Coming to the question that the hon. member has asked, the project envisaged by Dr. K.L. Rao was further studied by the Central Water Commission, and it was found that though it was technically feasible, economically it was not feasible as the cost was prohibitive.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Mr. Speaker Sir, you are a farmer and you must be aware that the fate of the South Indian farmers depends mostly on the inter-connection of the rivers. A lot of water is drained into the sea and it is in no way useful to the farmers of the country. Polavaram project which links Krishna and Godavari will give an excess of 80 TMC water to the drought affected areas in Rayalaseema. Will the hon. Minister consider this and sanctions the Polavaram Project? I also want to know whether he is going to take it up as a national project and not as a state project.

Secondly, how is he going to arrest the flow of excess flood waters? Has the Government of India any plans in this regard?