

it was more for the benefit of Rajasthan than for the benefit of Punjab. Yet, for fifteen years not a single acre of land has been given to the Harika pond oustees. Nobody knows where the file is or what the present position is. If things are done in this manner and the grievances of the people, even when they are justified, are not looked into people will lose their confidence in the Government. If any land is taken away from the agriculturists for any public purpose like projects, they must be paid adequate compensation or allotted alternative lands. Our Prime Minister has given this assurance on more than one occasion. I hope this Ministry will implement that policy.

Punjab and Rajasthan are hard-hit this time because of poor crops as there was no water in the Gang canal and Sirhind canal. Here I want the Government of India to consider seriously a question of policy. Betterment levy is charged for lands near Bhakra from the poor peasants. Yet, the benefits of Bhakra go mainly to those who utilise electricity; because, they release water only according to the needs for generation of electricity. Even though there was a great demand for release of water from Bhakra to the Gang canal, Sirhind Canal and Sirhind Canal Feeder, they did not release more water on the ground that if the level of water goes down generation of electricity will go down. If the betterment levy is to be collected from the peasants, then water should be released according to their requirements and not according to the requirements for generation of electricity. If, on the other hand, a project is mainly meant for generation of electricity there should be no betterment levy from the peasants; because water is released only for generation of electricity and the water coming for irrigation is only a by-product. Betterment levy should be collected only if the project is meant exclusively for irrigation and there is no generation of electricity; not otherwise.

These are some of the points that I wanted to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. I hope he will take note of them, especially rural electrification so that rural India may progress. With these words, I support the Demands for Grants relating to this Ministry.

12.25 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission and with the permission of the House, I would like to make a little adjustment in the order of discussion and voting of Demands for Grants relating to the remaining Ministries.

I propose that the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Health may be taken up after the voting on the Demands for Grants of the Department of Supply and Technical Development. This will enable the Minister of Health to be free by the evening of the 2nd of April for attending some very important business on the 3rd and 4th of April.

I also propose that the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs may be taken up after the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs. The shifting of dates of the Demands of the Ministry of Home Affairs would enable the Home Minister to have discussions with the Home Minister of Pakistan who is arriving here on the 7th April.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore): May we know the dates on which it will be there?

Mr. Speaker: Could he give the revised programme?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: We must know just now because our speakers have all gone. You cannot change like this.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Would you like me to give that to hon. Members or would you like me to announce in the House also the approximate dates which this adjustment will involve?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, that will be better.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: This is very inconvenient. How do we manage now, at the last minute, to change our speakers and everything?

Mr. Speaker: There is one difficulty about the Home Ministry at least because Pakistan says that 7th, 8th and 9th April are the only convenient dates to hold a meeting between the Home Ministers.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Nominated—Jammu and Kashmir): May I submit that all the dates may be announced afresh?

Mr. Speaker: That I am getting.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I have got it now. Of course, these dates also change because when time is extended the schedule is upset.

Mr. Speaker: From now onwards...

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Irrigation and Power...31st March; Supply and Technical Development Departments...31st March and 1st April; Health...1st April and 2nd April; Industry... 2nd, 3rd and 4th April; Works, Housing and Rehabilitation...4th and 6th April; Community Development and Co-operation...6th and 7th April; Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering...7th and 8th April; External Affairs... 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th April; Home Affairs...11th, 13th and 14th April and Finance and Planning...14th and 15th April.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What will be the dates for Home Affairs?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: 11th April—maybe, towards the end it is taken up—13th and 14th April.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I beg of you that Home Affairs may be taken up earlier. If we cannot have it on the 7th, 8th and 9th, please let us have it earlier because the Home Ministry is one of the most important Ministries which are going to

be debated this time. Since we have to change it because of the meeting with the Home Minister of Pakistan, we would request that it should come a little earlier and not on the 11th.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: How could it be earlier?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Why can it not be? They can be debated before the 7th... (Interruption).

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): May I submit.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That is why I say that it should come before that. On 7th, 8th and 9th is the conference.....

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Pakistan insists on it being on the 7th, 8th and 9th. The Pakistan Home Minister is coming on that date. Therefore we had to make all these changes; otherwise, we would not have done so. We are quite conscious of the inconvenience which has been caused to the House and hon. Members. But there is no other go.

Mr. Speaker: He has put 11th. I am told, there is no sitting on the 11th.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It is true. But I would come later to request the House for that because we are already behind schedule by 12 hours.

12.29 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER—
contd.

Shri Mahatab (Angul): **Mr. Speaker,** Sir, In the kind of planning which we have undertaken for the last several years it is obvious that irrigation and power should have taken the first place. When the Second Plan was under preparation I submitted a memorandum to the Plan-