

My colleague, the Finance Minister and I were both on this Committee, and the House may rest assured that these recommendations are in the best interests of the Railways and of General Finance. It is a matter for gratification that all these recommendations have been carried unanimously.

With these words, I commend the Resolution to the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Resolution moved:

"That this House approves the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenue as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance vis-a-vis the General Finance, which was presented to Parliament on 29th November, 1963."

Shri Alvares (Panjim): Sir, we have just been discussing the report of the Finance Commission.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may continue tomorrow.

16.59 hrs.

RE: EXPUNCTION

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Speaker has looked into the records and ordered the expunction of certain phrases. The Press will please take note of them and will not publish those portions which have been expunged. They may check it up. . . .

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hohangabad): Let the House be told what portions have been expunged.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are with the Reporters. He can go and see.

17 hrs.

†SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR TUBE-WELLS IN PUNJAB.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द (करनाल) :

वह क्या बात वेद पितृभ्यो यत्रे तान् वैत्थ निदितान् पराके ।

मेदसकुत्या उपतान् सवन्तु सत्याएपामाहित्थ सनमन्ता स्वाहा ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सब जानते हैं कि जीवन के लिये जितना मकान जरूरी है, उससे ज्यादा बस्त्र और बरतों से ज्यादा धन्न जरूरी है । धीरे धीरे के लिये सब से आवश्यक बस्तु है पानी । एक बार बिना छाने हुए धन्न उपज सकता है यदि पानी मिल जाये :

"धन्नाद्भवन्ति भूतानि परजन्यादन्न संभवः यज्ञाद्भवति परजन्यो यज्ञ कर्म समद न्नः"

नियम यह है कि पानी मिलेगा वर्षा से, वर्षा अच्छी हो तो पानी मिलेगा, धीरे वर्षा अच्छी होगी यज्ञ से । जब वर्षा अच्छी होगी तो पानी मिलेगा, पानी मिलेगा तो धन्न होगा, धीरे धन्न होगा तो प्राणी जीवित रहेंगे, उनका पालन पोषण धीरे बढ़ना भी होगा । जहां हमको पानी वर्षा से मिलता है वहां नदियों के द्वारा मिलता है । जब वर्षा अच्छी नहीं होगी तो नदियां भी पानी नहीं देंगी । लेकिन जब कहीं धारा नहीं होगी तो व्यय कैसे किया जायेगा । दूसरा उपाय सब से अच्छा है भूमि के गर्भ से । हम कूपों के द्वारा घबका भूजल यंत्रों के द्वारा भूगर्भ से पानी निकाल कर सिंचाई कर सकते हैं ।

इस बार पंजाब में वर्षा कम होने के कारण सारी नहरों में पानी बहुत कम था रहा है । मैंने प्रश्न किया था उस वक्त मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर दिया था कि नहरों में पानी कम नहीं है । परन्तु पानी की कमी होने के कारण पानी का हम अच्छी तरह बरताव नहीं कर रहे हैं । यह मंत्री महोदय का बकतव्य है । मैं आपको ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि वह पानी किस दूरी तक से बरताव में था रहा है । इसका ज्ञान मैं कराना चाहता हूँ । मैं आप को बीसों नहीं

[श्री रामेश्वरानम्ब]

पचासों गांव करनाम जिले में ऐसे गिना सकता हूँ जहाँ गांवों में नहर जाती है मगर पानी नहीं पहुँचता है। वर्तमान मंत्री महोदय को पहले मैं जनता के अनेक लोगों के प्रार्थना पत्र दे चुका हूँ, मेरे पास और भी प्रार्थना पत्र रखे हैं। यदि मंत्री महोदय चाहेंगे तो मैं उन्हें दे दूंगा। टीकरी कलस, गांज बड़, बडोली, गुडा, बीक्षील, जाटल, बेगमपुर आदि सैकड़ों गांव हैं जहाँ के प्रार्थना पत्र मौजूद हैं। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि माननीय श्री राव साहब इन गांवों की अवश्य ही जांच करायेंगे कि उनको क्या कठिनाई पानी की है। वहाँ आप का पट-वारी होता है, आप का इलाकेदार होता है पानी छोड़ने के लिये नहर में। मैं आप से सच्ची बात कह रहा हूँ। इस में किंचित झूठ नहीं होगा कि जो व्यक्ति वापिकी या छः महीने में उन को दे देते हैं उन के यहाँ पानी चोखा चलता है और जो नहीं देते वहाँ कागज पर तो लिख दिया जाता है कि इस नहर में पानी छोड़ दिया गया लेकिन मौके पर पानी नहीं आता है। मंत्री महोदय चाहें तो मैं उन को दिखला सकता हूँ। इस में किंचित मात्र झूठ हो तो जो ऊंचा से ऊंचा दंड देना चाहें, उस को मैं स्वीकार करने के लिये तैयार हूँ। उन्होंने यह कहा था कि सिंचाई का जो पानी धाया है वह चोड़ा जरूर है लेकिन हम उस को ठीक बरत रहे हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह ठीक नहीं बरता जा रहा है। गलत बरता जा रहा है। मंत्री महोदय उस की जांच करा लें।

दूसरी बात मुझे टूबवेल के सम्बन्ध में विनोद रूप से यह कहनी है कि अभी हाल में मैं आपने प्रश्न में कहा था कि ट्रांसफार्मर्स की कमी है। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि ट्रांसफार्मर्स की कमी तो नहीं है, कुछ सामान की न्यूनता है। मैं आपको सैकड़ों कृषकों के नाम बता दूंगा जिनके प्रार्थना पत्र धाये हुए वर्षों हो गये। वे इस आशा में थे कि उनको बिजली का कनेक्शन मिलेगा। लेकिन आप के अधिकाारी ने करनाल, पानीपत, यमुनानगर और कुश्नौर में कह दिया लोगों से कि ट्रांसफार्मर्स

नहीं है इसलिये उनके यहाँ बिजली नहीं ले जाई जा सकती। अतः जो आप ने यह कह दिया कि ट्रांसफार्मर्स की कमी नहीं है, उसको मैं नहीं मानता।

मंत्री जी ने कहा कि उन्होंने नलकूप लगाये हैं। उन्होंने 1-4-65 से लेकर 30-8-65 तक 4215 नलकूप लगवाये हैं। यह कुल मिला कर छः महीने का समय हुआ है। छः महीने में सारे पंजाब में आपने 4215 नलकूप लगाये हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इससे पहले के आप के कुल कितने नलकूप हैं। आप छः महीनों में केवल इतने नलकूप लगवा पाये हैं सारे पंजाब में। सारे पंजाब में 18 जिले हैं और एक एक जिले में कम से कम पन्द्रह पन्द्रह सौ गांव हैं। किसी में पन्द्रह सौ से ज्यादा भी हैं। हमारे करनाल क्षेत्र में 1400 या 1500 गांव हैं। आप के हिसाब से अगर छः महीने में 4215 नलकूप लगवाये जायें तो पंजाब के छठारह जिलों में कुल कितने गांव हैं इनका हिसाब जोड़ने पर हर दस गांव के पीछे एक नलकूप आपका नहीं पड़ता है। इसलिये आप की जो प्रगति है वह बहुत धीमी है। इस प्रगति से आप कभी भी इस काम को नहीं कर पायेंगे। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप के कथनानुसार इस वर्ष 11 हजार नलकूप लगवाये जायेंगे। मैं पूटना चाहता हूँ कि क्या एक वर्ष में आप यह 11 हजार नलकूप इतने समय में लगवा सकेंगे।

Shri Daljit Singh (Una): Sir, there is no quorum in the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member might resume his seat. The bell is being rung. . . Now there is quorum. He might continue his speech.

श्री रामेश्वरानम्ब : आज इस वक्तव्य में कहा गया है कि पंजाब में इस बार 11 हजार नलकूप इस वर्ष में लगवा सकेंगे। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ पंजाब के कितने गांव हैं, 18 जिलों में, एक एक जिले में एक गांव में एक नलकूप भी नहीं आता

घोर यह आपकी स्थिति रही तो जय जवान का नारा चल नहीं सकता । कैसे चलेगा ? भ्रष्ट होगा तभी जय जवान हो सकेगा, तभी जय मंत्री हो सकेगा और तभी जय प्रधान हो सकेगा । अब कुछ भ्रष्ट के ही सहारे हैं, और भ्रष्ट हो नहीं सकेगा तो कैसे होगा ? ... (ध्वजवाहन) तां मेरा निवेदन है कि इस प्रकार की भाषा की गति है और ट्यूबवैलों में जो आपका लाईन सुपरिटेण्डेंट बैठे हैं, आप के जो एस० डी० प्रो० बैठे हैं, मैं सब कहता हूँ कितने ही लोगों से चार चार सौ रुपये तक लेते हैं और जो नहीं देते उसको बिजली का कनेक्शन नहीं देते चाहे खम्भा लगा हो, मेरे यहां यह वास्तविक स्थिति है और आपको जांच करनी हो तो यमुनानगर, कर्नाल, पानीपत, सफेदों, ... समाल खां इन केन्द्रों को आप देख लें, बड़ा स्पष्ट उदाहरण मिलेगा ।

आप के यहां ऋण देने की भी कमी है । कुंधा बनवाने के लिये ऋण नहीं मिलता, वर्षों फिन्ते रहते हैं । जो नलकूप लगाना चाहते हैं, उनको भी ऋण नहीं मिलता और यदि मिलता भी है तो वर्षों चक्कर लगाते रहते हैं और उसका प्राधा पैसा इसी में खर्च होता है, तब जाकर ऋण मिलता है । यह सब से बड़ी समस्या इसमें है । मैं प्राशा करूंगा कि आप इस घोर ध्यान देंगे । आप पहले भी मेरे कथन के आधार पर कई बार अपने प्रादमी भेजे चुके हैं बाद के नियंत्रण के लिए तो मैं प्राशा करूंगा कि मेरे इस निवेदन पर आप अवश्य ध्यान देंगे । अपनी उदारता के आधार पर आप इसकी जांच करायेंगे और उससे सारे राष्ट्र को लाभ होगा ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : हमारा भी इसमें नाम है, हमें सबाल पूछने की इजाजत दी जाय ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप का नाम कहाँ है ? बड़े घोर त्रिवेदी जो ने सपोर्ट किया है । अच्छा, पूछ लीजिए ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि काश्तकारों को जो बिजली दी जाती है और उद्योगपतियों को जो बिजली दी जाती है उसमें उद्योगपतियों को 3 पैसे के भाव से दी जाती है और काश्तकारों को 19 पैसे में दी जाती है, तो मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इन दोनों में जो अन्तर है इससे काश्तकारों को काफी असन्तोष है और काश्तकार बिजली से छेती करना नहीं चाहता, वह डिजिल इंजिन से ज्यादा पसन्द करता है क्योंकि वह सस्ता पड़ता है, तो क्या सरकार यह जो दोनों के रेट में अन्तर है उस अन्तर को मिटाने के लिए कोई विशेष कदम उठाना चाहती है ?

श्री श्रीकार लाल बोरवा (कोटा) : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो गमले और बंगले की योजना सरकार ने चलाई है और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो नारा लगाया है तो गमले और बंगले के अन्दर जो पानी खर्च होता है, नगरपालिका उसका चालान करती है, दिल्ली में कई एक चालान कर दिये हैं, तो क्या सरकार ने नगरपालिका को ऐसी प्रादेश दे दिये हैं कि तुम इस पानी का इसमें प्रयोग मत करो और यदि करोगे तो क्या उसका रेट कमनी होगा या उसी रेट पर प्रयोग किया जायगा ?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I should first express my thanks to the hon. member, Swamiji, for the able manner in which he has raised this discussion. I must also be thankful to him on behalf of the Government for his blessings and well wishes, so that we could have more rains.

Swamiji has raised two points: one is about the flow in the canals and the other is about tubewells. About the canals, I may submit that, in the Punjab, 4 million or 40 lakh acres are irrigated in the kharif season and 40 lakh acres in the rabi season, by the canals. This year we find that the

(Dr. K. L. Rao)

Punjab Government, through very skilful manipulation of the water supply and by taking other measures, have been able to irrigate 40 lakh acres during the *kharij* season—actually it is 41 lakhs. With regard to rabi crop also, they have been doing well so far and they expect to reach 40 lakhs of acres; they may fall short by one or two lakh acres, but essentially they will be able to reach 40 lakhs. This is in spite of the fact that the rivers are carrying water far below the normal levels of flow. In the particular case of Jamuna, which Swamiji has in mind—in Karnal and other districts—it is true that Jamuna has carried very low water this year as compared to Ravi, Beas and Sutlej. I was there about four days back; the Jamuna was carrying very little water—3,000 cusecs as against the normal 9,000 cusecs, i.e., only one-third of what it ought to carry.

As I said, the Punjab Government, by using the other sources like Jagdhari tubewells—about 400 cusecs—and by careful methods, are trying to meet the demand as much as possible. I must say that we are very grateful to the Punjab Government for the very excellent success they have achieved on the war front as well as in the field of food production. In spite of the very heavy strains that they had by way of resisting the enemy, it is remarkable that the Punjab Government have been able to do so well in the field of food production. In spite of the fact that there was no rainfall and the rivers were carrying less water, they are not a deficit State; on the other hand, they are trying to contribute to the rest of the country; it is commendable and I would congratulate the Punjab Government on that.

It is true that Swamiji has told me a number of times that I should go there and see the area which he has in mind. The Minister in charge, Punjab, has also told me.

I must go there sometime and see the areas which Swamiji has in mind.

I quite appreciate what Swamiji has said: there has been very good development in that area so far as agriculture is concerned and if there is more water, they will be able to do much more. We have made some desperate calculations—rough calculations—as to what the next year will be. The general idea is that next year will be a better rainfall year than this year and I hope things will resume the normal conditions.

With regard to the other things that he has said, i.e., about the electricity connections to the wells, it is true that, in the Punjab, quite a large amount of work has yet to be done. There are three types of wells there: ordinary wells which irrigate only 15 acres; there are the shallow private tubewells which irrigate about 30 acres each; and there are the State tubewells which irrigate 300 acres each. These three categories of wells—There are as many as 2½ lakh wells—irrigate 25 lakhs of acres. All this is really very good. Of these 2½ lakhs of wells, I am afraid we have been able to do electrification so far only somewhere about 22,500 wells. So, the major portion is yet to be done. I quite agree, I quite concede and I quite appreciate the impatience of the Swamiji that we should do more and more. But there are so many other limitations. This unfortunately is the plight all over the country. Out of 5½ lakhs of villages that we have all over the country and the corresponding number of wells that we have, we have hardly touched anything like one-tenth or one-eleventh so far. The people are all very impatient. I quite appreciate it. That only shows that we are on the way to the development of the country.

With regard to the other wells, the State tubewells, about 1227 have been electrified, and as for the private tubewells, the number is as much as 11,000. That is all very good work. Only four or five years back, the rate was only 2000 connections for wells

per year. It was only last year that we touched the mark of 6900. I am very glad that this year they have jumped from 6900 to 11,000. Next year, their programme is to have 16,000 connections. Therefore, all this means investment of huge funds. For example, they wanted about Rs. 4 crores. The Punjab Government somehow, I believe, have been able to divert funds and make some adjustments and they have given the necessary funds, with the result that so far 5000 wells have been electrified, and another 6000 wells are going to be electrified at the rate of 1000 per month. Next year it is expected that the tempo will be increased to 16,000.

We find that the number of applications pending is about 16,400; these are still pending with the State Electricity Board. This number goes on increasing, because every month as 1500 applications are disposed of, 1600 applications come in, so that the number is constantly going up. Out of these 16,400 they have got on hand, they have taken action by way of giving orders, by way of having the test reports etc. on 5500. That is quite a good number. But there are two sectors where I would concede that we should take some action. I would advise the Electricity Board to take some action in this regard. There are as many as 3690 applications which are pending for mere formalities to be completed by the consumers. These formalities relate to some signatures, some amount of security and so on. I think that in the present context of the emergency, it is necessary for the State Electricity Board to take such measures as would be able to reduce the time taken in these formalities. I would even suggest to the Electricity Board to send the officers to the consumers. . . .

भा रामेश्वरानन्द : मंत्री महोदय, ऐसा नहीं है। जिसको वह वैसा मिल जाता है वह भी ज्यों का त्यों रह जम्मा है। इसलिए

मेरा जो विशेष भाग है उसके ऊपर धाप का ध्यान जाना चाहिए। जैसा मैंने धाप से निवेदन किया है धाप के पास जो बिजली है वह भी पर्याप्त है यदि जो देने वाले हैं उनको कही उठा कर फेंक दिया जाये या इन के वास्ते इंतजाम किया जाये। करनाम की बात तो मैं धाप को पूरी बतला दूँ।

Dr. K. L. Rao: What the Swamiji has been saying may be true or may not be true. But anyway, that is one of the unfortunate lapses that always happen when we are dealing with a heavy rush programme like this. It must be our endeavour to see that these things do not happen, and least of all, these corrupt practices. I shall draw the particular attention of the Punjab Government and the other concerned officers to this aspect.

I was trying to say that I was thinking of the practical steps that we should take in order to expedite this programme. I was thinking of asking the State Electricity Board to send their officers to the consumers and try to get the formalities cleared, in order to reduce the time taken in the completion of the formalities.

Similarly, there are 6200 applications pending for estimate preparations. I would say that they must engage more officers and see that these estimates are prepared. These are the two fields or areas where we can take energetic action and expedite the disposal of the applications. That is the first step.

With regard to materials, fortunately, they are not in difficulty in respect of transformers, but there are other materials like aluminium, copper and zinc required which are in short supply, not only in Punjab, but, unfortunately, throughout the country. Nevertheless, we are going to make a very big effort to see that these materials are supplied not only to Punjab but for the rest of the country as well. The other day I requested the Chairman of all the Electricity

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

Boards to send in their indents of all the requirements for the next two years. After receiving that, I propose to make a consolidated list of indents for the whole country and try to get the necessary foreign exchange for the import of these raw materials.

So far as Punjab is concerned, the State Electricity Board has assured me that they have placed all the necessary orders for these materials. Orders have been spaced so that the flow is kept up evenly. They have no hesitation in saying that they will be able to keep up the programme that they have got now, that is, about one thousand applications per month.

On the whole, I should say that the problem is being tackled fairly well, though I concede that there are some aspects where improvements are necessary.

One of the questions asked of me was concerning the rate charged for electricity supplied to industry and to the cultivators. With regard to that, in the Punjab the rate is 9.38p for the first 1500 units and thereafter it is at the reduced rate of 7.08p. These are the rates charged for agriculture. These are fairly good rates, not very high ones, compared to those prevailing in the rest of the country,

where they are nearly three times as much. I do not justify them at all. The power in Punjab is essentially Hydro power, I mean the Bhakra power, unlike in Bihar where the power is generated by thermal stations. It has been possible for them in Punjab to supply electricity at these fairly low rates. It is true that these rates are higher compared to the rates charged to industry. But the reasons are different. In the case of industry, they take a large load, the power consumed is concentrated, the losses are less and so on. This is not peculiar to this country only; in any part of the world, we find that the rates charged to industry are less than those given to the other sector.

I am grateful to hon. Members for giving very good suggestions. I would conclude by expressing my appreciation of the excellent work that is being done in Punjab when they are simultaneously tackling two problems, the problem of defence of the frontier and the problem of producing food for the nation.

17.28 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 9, 1965/Agrahayana 18, 1887 (Saka).