

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's statement in the House that he does not know English sufficiently well, is not very convincing, but if he wants it in any other language, he should. In that case, request some obliging friend of his to get the translation. It cannot be done by the Parliament Secretariat.

valley schemes. Is that what he means?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: In the previous bulletin it was stated that today's discussion will be on planning and river valley schemes and in the bulletin of the 17th June, it was changed to Irrigation and Power. I wish to know whether 'irrigation' will cover the river valley projects also.

INDIAN COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): The intention was that we might not bring in the work of the Planning Commission as a whole here, but all planning matters connected with irrigation and power might be discussed today.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce the Bill.

Shri A. C. Guha (Santipur): Including river valley schemes?

Shri Nanda: Yes.

RUBBER (PRODUCTION AND MARKETING) AMENDMENT BILL

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber (Production and Marketing) Act, 1947.

Mr. Speaker: All plans, I understand will be discussed on the day when the Planning Commission is going to be discussed, but the actual projects in hand about river valleys and irrigation will be discussed together. Am I correct?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber (Production and Marketing) Act, 1947."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Karmarkar: I introduce the Bill.

Shri Jhunjunwala (Bhagalpur Central): While we have a discussion on planning, shall we be able to refer to the river valley projects also on that day?

I want to know the position about the Damodar Valley Project.

Shri Nanda: The Damodar Valley Project is there and the work is going on and according to what you said, Sir, it is a project in hand.

GENERAL BUDGET—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Saran South): I find that there is a change in the programme today. In the previous programme it was stated that planning and river valley projects would be discussed. Today it has been changed to Irrigation and Power. Would 'Irrigation' cover the river valley projects?

Mr. Speaker: I said that it will be discussed under Planning.

Mr. Speaker: It is not so much a question as to what I said. I will make it clear as to what the parties intended and have agreed. The difficulty has arisen because there is a change of portfolios and re-formation of the Ministries after the budget was presented to the House. I understand that the intention is that, all projects which are not actually under the consideration of the Planning Commission to-day are going to be discussed to-day. The others will be discussed later on, as I just announced.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: If anybody wants to request that a certain plan should be incorporated in the Five Year Plan, when will that be discussed?

An Hon. Member: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He refers to the capital outlay on multi-purpose river

Mr. Speaker: That will obviously come under the Planning Commission. As I said plans which are actually in progress today will be coming up for discussion today, and not the plans contemplated or proposed to be altered, which come under planning.

Those plans are not coming for discussion today. That is how I understand the intention.

Now there is an agreed list of cut motions. The Demand under discussion will be the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. I am placing the Demands, Nos. 71, 75, 76 and 123 before the House and the cut motions that are agreed may be moved.

DEMAND NO. 71—IRRIGATION (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES) NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS (MET FROM REVENUE).

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,000 be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Irrigation (including working expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue).'"

DEMAND NO. 75—MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,60,000 be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Multipurpose River Schemes.'"

DEMAND NO. 76—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,72,000 be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under

the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research.'"

DEMAND NO. 123—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,04,43,000 be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes.'"

Irrigational facilities in Maharashtra

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta North-West): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

River Valley Project

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Progress of River Valley Projects

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Overhauling of administrative machinery

Shri Meghnad Saha: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Re-organisations of Hirakud administrative machinery

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal-West Cuttack): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: Demand No. 76. Cut motion No. 728.

Delay in execution of Hirakud Projects

Shri R. N. Deo (Kalahandi-Bolangir): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: Then, demand No. 123. Cut motion No. 1109. I think that comes under Planning.

Shri Nanda: Yes; that would come under Planning.

Mr. Speaker: I am not placing that before the House. The next cut motion is No. 1110. To discuss the policy with regard to Multipurpose River Schemes. What does he mean by that? Does he want to discuss with reference to the projects intended to be taken up by the Planning Commission, or the present schemes?

Shri Gopala Rao (Gudivada): Both.

Mr. Speaker: If he wants to discuss the present schemes, he can do so on this cut motion. But, if he wants to discuss the policy which is going to be adopted by the Planning Commission, this cut motion need not and cannot be moved now. It seems he wants to discuss both. I think he had better limit his observations to the present schemes, if at all he gets a chance to speak and he may limit his observations within the limits which I have mentioned in the beginning. I am placing this cut motion also before the House.

Policy Re Multipurpose River Schemes

Shri Gopala Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: There are two more cut motions. Demand No. 123, cut motion No. 1107. Demand No. 75; cut motion 1102.

Policy

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Wastage due to change of policy

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: These can be taken to have been moved. The usual time limit, I believe, will apply. I need not say now when I shall call upon the Minister to reply.

Shri Ramaseshaiah (Parvathipuram): There is one more cut motion of mine, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: What is the number?

Shri Ramaseshaiah: No. 1108.

Modification in Damodar Valley Project

Shri Ramaseshaiah: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Shri Sivamurthi Swami (Kushtagi): There is my cut motion No. 1125, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: That is relating to Demand No. 81.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: No. 1124, Sir.

Tungabhadra project in Hyderabad

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Shri Pocker Saheb (Malappuram): Sir, I want to move cut motion No. 431 under Demand No. 71.

Mr. Speaker: Is it a scheme under the Central Government or is it a provincial scheme?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): It is a State scheme for which some assistance has been requested from the Central Government.

Mr. Speaker: I am doubtful whether it could be discussed here because that is a State project and the responsibility is of the Madras State. I do not think I can place that before the House.

Shri Pocker Saheb: Money for the scheme is advanced by the Centre. It is for lack of help from the Centre that the execution of the scheme has been slowed down.

Shri Kelappan (Ponnani): That is in the Five Year Plan.

Mr. Speaker: If it is in the Five Year Plan, that may be taken up under Planning. All right; let it be before the House. Let us have as much as possible within 2½ hours.

Execution of Malampuzha Scheme

Shri Pocker Saheb: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: All the cut motions moved by the hon. Members are placed before the House. Now, we will start. The usual time limit is there. The Minister will require for reply...

Shri Nanda: Forty-five minutes to one hour.

Mr. Speaker:.....Half an hour or 45 minutes?

Shri Nanda: All right; 45 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: That may be considered later. The discussion may proceed. Shri Meghnad Saha.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I beg to move. . . .

Mr. Speaker: He can take the cut motion as moved. He can mention the subject if he wants.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I am particularly insisting on the cut motion to discuss the desirability of overhauling the whole administrative machinery of these River Valley Projects. These River Valley Projects had been discussed before the Congress Government came into power and a good deal of spade work had been done. It was a very good thing on the part of the Congress Government that they took up very energetically the execution of these River Valley projects and I am wholeheartedly in agreement with them that priority was given to the Damodar Valley project.

If you take the different River Valley projects, you can find out the estimate of the amount of work to be done from the data before you. The Damodar is a small river and the basin also is small. If you take the amount of work to be done in the Damodar Valley to be one unit, you can judge the amount of work to be done in the other River valleys in terms of this as a unit. Take for example the Mahanadi River Valley project which comes under the name Hirakud Dam. It will be six times

as much. If you take the Ganges River and all its tributaries, it will be 100 times as much.

So, when undertake a work of such stupendous nature, it is very necessary that you get the proper administrative experience by taking up a small project. So that was the reason why the Damodar Valley Project was first chosen. There are some other reasons, namely that in order to execute a river valley project, we require certain data, the amount of water which flows through the river, the topographical nature, the minerals, the geological formation and so on. All these were very well known in the case of Damodar Valley. A lot of preparatory work had been done and an expert from the Tennessee Valley had been brought to make a preliminary plan. It was on the basis of all this data that the Government took the resolution to launch the Damodar Valley Project, but here I must say my support of the Government ends.

To review the work of the Damodar Valley Corporation during the last few years of its existence, Parliament appointed an Estimates Committee. The report of the Estimates Committee is before Parliament. Now, this Committee made disclosures which no Government can ignore, and before we vote further sums for this project, it is very necessary to draw the attention of this House to the gross irregularities which have been perpetrated by the Damodar Valley Corporation. We have already spent more than Rs. 20 crores on the Damodar Valley. What has been the result? Out of the 12 dams which were under contemplation, it is said that only four will be taken up, and after four years of work, we find that only one dam has been completed, and that dam is the smallest dam in the whole valley. It is little better than a pond, and the entire work has not reached even the planning stage.

We have been told that the Damodar Valley is tackling a thermal power station at Bokaro. This thermal power station was contemplated as a stand-by, that is to say, when other dams had been completed, this was to have been taken up. But, on the insistence of the World Bank, this has been taken up. This power project, I am told, is very near completion, but for this no credit need be given to the Damodar Valley Corporation because here the consultants are all foreigners. It has been put in charge of a foreign company, and there are very gross irregularities in the way this company does its work. All that the Damodar Valley Corporation does is simply to pay the bills, and that

also not after proper scrutiny. So, this is the sum total of the work of the Damodar Valley. Gross irregularities have been noticed in the work of rehabilitation.

Now, what is the cause? Within the short time at my disposal, I have not the time to tell you the cause. You can find out all that in this report. Well, I can sum it up metaphorically. The Government wanted to construct a beehive. They did so without providing a queen bee, but there are plenty of drones, any number of drones who do not do any work but draw fat salaries, and the worker bees there are all starved, and there is no direction. So, this being the frightful state of affairs, I think either the work should be closed, or the whole administrative machinery must be overhauled.

I might say that the Damodar Valley Corporation was brought into existence on the model of the Tennessee Valley, but they failed to catch the spirit of the Tennessee Valley. The Tennessee Valley Authority had at its head Dr. Arthur Morgan, one of the most outstanding engineers of the world, and he created quite a record in engineering by constructing eleven dams within the short space of five years. He was President there. And Dr. Morgan came here as a member of the Universities Commission. At my request, Dr. Morgan was invited to the Damodar Valley, and he found out very gross irregularities in the method of work, and his letter is still before the Government. I do not think the Government took any notice of it, and if they had taken notice of it in time and given effect to his recommendations, then I think, so many crores of rupees which have flowed down the waters of the Damodar River would have been saved for the nation.

Now, I come to the Hirakud Dam Project. The Hirakud Dam Project is on a different basis. We might call it better the Mahanadi Valley Reclamation Project. This passes through the State of Orissa, and I have studied this problem. The Mahanadi Valley is just a little bigger than the Tennessee Valley, and if properly handled, this reclamation scheme should do the same wonders for the Province of Orissa as the Tennessee Valley has done for the seven States of America through which it passes. But what has happened. This project was undertaken very hastily. There was no data about the flow of the river etc. If you consult a survey map of the Geological Survey, you find most of the areas have never been visited by a

geologist. In spite of that, the decision was taken to erect a dam there, and first of all the British Governor Sir Louis Thorne was invited to lay the foundation stone which he did in 1945. When the Congress Government came to power, a second foundation ceremony was held, and the foundation was laid by no less a personage than the Leader of this House. Now, what was this necessary for? That was because there were strong protest by many people, by Mr. Rangiah, Mr. Misra and myself, that the project should not be allowed to be launched without proper survey. Now, what do we find to be the results. The results are startlingly grave. I shall simply read for you a quotation from the report of the Estimates Committee. The Estimates Committee says that the whole work of the enunciation of proposals, planning, policy making and execution is done by a single organisation or authority or even an individual in different capacities, that is to say, one individual, in his capacity as Secretary to the Government, passes all the projects. He is also consultant, and sometimes he is also the executor. Now, such gross irregularity, I think, is not allowed by any Government.

The Estimates Committee justly points out that the arrangement is not only inappropriate, but replete with dangers, drawbacks and imperfections which may cause a severe blow to the entire programme of the development of river valley schemes on which the prosperity of the country as a whole depends. I may say that I am in whole-hearted agreement with this view. And I may mention some of the irregularities which have been committed. One of the irregularities committed is that they asked a French Mission to advise them on the possibility of rendering the river below Hirakud navigable, and they wanted to have a diversion canal so that the water may pass when the construction work was being undertaken. The French engineers who have their own great experience because they had done reclamation of their own valley, gave their judgement definitely against it. In spite of that the bridge was constructed at a cost of 1.5 crores, above a place where no water will flow for seven years. Many of you might have known that the bridge was opened by then Minister with the usual flourish and fanfare. If you have visited Seringapatam, you might have seen a bridge constructed on open ground by Tippu Sultan. This bridge is also something like that. But Tippu Sultan did not commit this kind of foolishness. Gentlemen, ...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I hope the hon. Member remembers that he is addressing the Speaker.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I would not like to go more into details. But I think on the whole that we should not be wise in voting even a single pice for these projects, until the administrative machinery is completely overhauled. I find that in the Five Year Plan, a further sum of Rs. 104 crores has been assigned for these river valley projects. If you allow this state of affairs to go on, it may not be even Rs. 104 crores, even Rs. 500 crores cannot help to build these projects. I might say that though so far the works have been very disappointing, I do not for a moment suggest that these river valley projects should be abandoned. This kind of mistakes has been committed by other governments also. When Russia undertook her river valley projects, she committed the same blunders. When America started her river valley projects, for the first thirty years, from 1900 to 1930, they also committed the same mistakes, but they quickly learnt the results, and they overhauled their whole administrative machinery, and then the work went on smoothly. Look at the achievement of the Russians. They have converted the whole of the river—Mother Volga as they affectionately call it—into a number of lakhs. Mother Volga which was creating all kinds of trouble in Russia has now been tamed, and harnessed to give irrigation facilities for tens of millions of acres of land. It is also providing power on a scale unprecedented. I want that some day that our Mother Ganges also should be harnessed in a similar manner, when this country will derive inestimable benefit. There are many other similar projects. I am sincerely sorry that these projects have not been undertaken by the government. I think they should be undertaken only after a proper survey. For example, the Rampadasagar project in the Godavari valley will bring great blessings to the dwellers of the Andhra province, the Hyderabad province, and other adjacent provinces. The Kovnar river project in Maharashtra will bring a lot of industrial power to that area. This project dates from 1920, when Mr. Meyers was electrical engineer, he was invited to report on this project. He found that this was one of the biggest schemes, which will convert Southern Maharashtra into an industrial area, and give power as well as irrigation and water facilities for this part of the country, and thus make it one of the richest areas. It is not a question of party or anything of that nature. This is a matter

in which the whole country is involved, and I hope that after this glaring failure, the administration will learn its lessons, as to how to appoint the proper men, how to set up the proper checking machinery, so that the work can go on smoothly, without any money being wasted. With these few words, I move my cut motion.

10 A.M.

Shri Alagesan (Chingleput): The only hope for this country whose main misery is low standard of living lies in these River Valley Projects. But this does not mean that they should be carried out to the exclusion of other medium and small size projects and other minor irrigation works. The hon. Member from Kancheepuram when he was speaking on a different occasion, quoted texts and uttered a grave warning to the hon. the Finance Minister that he should prefer medium size projects to these large river valley projects. It left an impression that Government is undertaking and carrying out these big projects to the detriment of the smaller and medium size projects. The hon. Member cannot be unaware of the fact that the various schemes prepared by the State Governments that are being incorporated in the Five Year Plan—many of them are already under execution—represent a proper proportion between the large scale, medium size and the small projects. For instance, I can quote the example of Madras. Among the various projects that have been included—these are projects on which work is already progressing and they are not new ones by any means—only the Tungbhabadra and the Lower Bhavani projects can be called major projects. The other projects like the Malam-puzha, the Mettur canal scheme, the Manimuthar the Arniyar scheme etc. are all small scale projects.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

It will be seen therefrom, that the smaller projects have not been neglected. On the other hand, they have also been given their proper place. In this year's Budget estimates also, a sum of Rs. 10 crores has been allotted for the minor irrigation works and to quote again the instance of Madras, there is the tank renovation scheme. There are about 35,000 tanks in Madras which date back to ancient days and dynasties. The present government have undertaken to renovate them with all seriousness and are already carrying out the renovation. So it is not as if these large river valley projects are being carried on, to the detriment of the small scale

projects. When the hon. Member from Kancheepuram was speaking, my mind went back to about 2½ decades ago, when the planners of the Mettur dam were being attacked day in and day out in the Press and in the platform, by a party whose variation the hon. Member represents in this House today. The Mettur project helps the irrigation of about a million acres in the Cauvery-Delta in the Tanjore district, which is the only district that is surplus in the Tamil area. We have been suffering from very serious drought for the last four or five years, and but for the food produced in that area over a million acres of land, the food position would have been still more difficult, and I shudder to imagine the consequences which would have flown out of it. Even now, in the present zonal distribution, the Tanjore zone is the biggest zone, to which about seven deficit districts have been attached, because this one district can supply all the other seven districts. I have heard from the highest engineering authority that but for the Mettur Dam, the entire crops in that area would have failed completely, and it would have been like any other district left to the mercy of the monsoon. Fortunately, that calamity was averted because of the foresight of the planners of the Mettur Dam, and the whole credit should go to them.

Again, there is the criticism that these projects devour huge sums of money, which a poor country like ours cannot afford.

It is said that the Damodar Valley Project and the various other projects which are being directly financed by the Central Government are a by-word for extravagance and waste. Such criticisms are shared, I think, not only by the Members of the Opposition here today, but even in the previous House they have been forcefully voiced. There is a good deal of truth in that criticism. In fact the Estimates Committee which went into this question have given detailed suggestions to remedy the existing state of affairs. They have suggested a three-tier organisation which will put the administrative set up once for all on a sound footing. Various other suggestions having regard to efficiency and economy have been made by the Committee. For instance, speaking of purchases they have said that "purchases of stores, plant, equipment and machinery should, as far as possible, be done through the D. G., Supplies, and by the two Purchase Missions in Washington and London" Again, with regard to contracts, they have placed ceilings on various kinds of contracts

that should be given by various authorities. Then it was said by the hon. the previous speaker that no regular plans were prepared before these projects were launched. In this connection, the Estimates Committee had also suggested:

"At present, the tendency is to draw up schemes in barest outline and to give very general estimate of cost under certain major heads. This is not satisfactory. The scheme must be completely thought out in all its major and minor details and estimates for all items of work prepared."

I need not elaborate the various suggestions that have been made by the Estimates Committee. It is incumbent upon the Government that they should take these suggestions into their consideration at the earliest possible moment and try to give effect to them.

But having said this I should like to say—and I hope you will excuse me for saying that—that these big river valley projects are like celebrating a marriage. Extravagance, waste, pomp and show—all these things are associated with marriage also. Perhaps without these the marriage will not be considered a marriage at all and people may laugh and say "Look at this man. He has celebrated the marriage in a very poor and stingy way". For instance, a local piper may not be considered sufficient. He may be a good enough piper, but the man celebrating the marriage will not be content unless he bets one from Tanjore district. I am sorry, Sir, and I hope you will excuse me for mentioning Tanjore district again and again. It is a highly intellectual district though I am afraid, it did not betray much evidence of it when it failed to return my hon. friend, Shri Santhanam, to this hon. House. The same type of extravagance is associated with all these projects. You are not satisfied with a local engineer, however good he may be. You should import a foreign engineer, just to keep up the dignity. And you take pleasure in paying him a grand salary because you do not want foreigners to think that you are a niggardly person and you do not want to pay them handsome salaries. So you vie with other people and pay them huge salaries. All these things have come to be naturally criticised. I should like to make it clear that I am not against employment of foreign experts. Wherever there is knowledge, we should go out of our way to earn it. We should add to our store of knowledge from wherever we can. There is no gainsaying that. But at the same time we should see that we

[Shri Alagesan]

do not strain our purse too much. I think it was this extravagance aspect that Rajaji had in mind when he declared a few days ago the Public Works Department as his public enemy No. 2, though that department had to its credit the execution of the Tungabhadra and the Lower Bhavani projects to which even the hon. Finance Minister referred with appreciation the other day. But, for fear of waste and extravagance we cannot refrain from planning and launching these projects. As a Tamil proverb has it, it will be like not cooking for fear of the beggars. Consider the waste that has occurred over decades by our not properly husbanding our resources. If you calculate it, it will run into crores and crores. Compared to that waste, the waste that accompanies the carrying out and execution of big projects which is avoidable and for which early steps also are being taken, I hope, is nothing.

Again let us look at it from another angle. I have got some figures here. I hope the Finance Minister will correct me if my figures are a little this way or that. Let us now take the question of subsidies. I am not here pleading for their restoration, but am just mentioning the amount that we have spent on subsidies for about 5 years. From the year 1948 to 1952, we will have spent a sum of Rs. 138 crores. Of course the present budget allots only 15 crores, but taking the other sums that we may have to spend on account of the recent decision that has been taken—call it subsidy or loss on trading account—also into account, the figure works out to 138 crores. Now from their inauguration we have spent on these three projects a sum of about Rs. 116 crores. When you consider the subsidy amount and the amount that you have invested so far in these projects, it even comes to less than that. Again, we have not subsidised the entire difference in price between the foreign imported grain and the locally procured grain. We have subsidised only a part of it and so, unconsciously the people also have been paying an equal amount, if not more. So when you look at it that way, the amount you have so far invested comes only to half of what you have spent on subsidising foreign foodgrains. Again, Sir, the total estimated expenditure on all these three projects comes to about 300 crores. Even granting that the estimates may be raised a little, they may run to 400 crores. But if we see the figure that we have spent on importing—the total cost of these foreign foodgrains—it is something colossal.

from 1946 up to end of this year i.e. over a period of seven years, we would have spent about 820 crores of foreign exchange. This is more than double the entire expenditure that we will be incurring on all these three projects. So viewed from this point of view.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Two more minutes.

Shri Alagesan: Viewing the projects from this point of view, it will be seen that to carry out and finish these projects at the earliest possible moment will be more economical than incurring foreign exchange expenditure and expenditure on subsidies, both for the people and the Government of this country.

Spending on subsidies is like continuing to pay interest annually while keeping the principal amount as it was when the debt was incurred first. Spending on these river valley projects is like wiping off the debts in a given period by paying in equated annual instalments which include both capital and interest.

There is one other question, and since my time is short, I shall try to shorten my speech. The question is of harnessing the enthusiastic co-operation of the people in these projects. There is no denying the fact that people have shown very great enthusiasm for such projects. Many examples can be cited. With regard to a scheme in the South, namely, the Manimathar.....Project, people came out and subscribed more than Rs. 1,38,00,000. Since we have deliberately eschewed all totalitarian methods and regimentation of labour, we have to enlist the voluntary co-operation and support of the people in these big endeavours. We should make them feel the thrill of participating in this glorious task, and also make them feel the pride of national achievement. The Planning Commission has gone into this question in a rather vague way. They have suggested the formation of co-operatives which may be used for doing all unskilled work. But it is only a vague suggestion. I wish it had gone into it in a more detailed fashion and had evolved a concrete method so that the people also may fully co-operate. I am sure in the long run the people's willing and enthusiastic co-operation is bound to reduce even the costs of these projects.

My friend Mr. Siva Rao reminds me of a very important project. Even if he had not reminded me, I would not have sat down without mentioning it.

It has been a pet subject with me and it will continue to be a pet subject with me until it is taken up and finished. As you know, that project is the Krishna-Pennar Project.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is coming to it after he has spent up his time.

Shri Alagesan: I am sorry. I shall refer to it briefly. The Krishna-Pennar project lies in an area which is highly deficit. The three projects which have been taken up, you will agree, lie in areas which are fairly surplus, and this is the only project which lies in a deficit area. I have urged on the Government the necessity for taking this project up several times before and I need not dilate upon it now. I hope the hon. Minister for Planning will see to it that it is included. As I will not get any time on the day on which the subject of Planning is discussed, I now ask him to see to it that it is included and also carried out.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: In moving the three cut motions standing in my name, I first of all have to speak on Planning just a little bit to connect up with these schemes. I do not propose to speak on Planning as a whole, but simply to say that, whoever planned these hydro-electric projects, even in 1945, when there was no Planning Commission, it was well known that most of these projects were primarily for irrigation and flood control. As far as I know, the Damodar Valley Project was primarily for flood control, while Hirakud was both for flood control as well as for irrigation. But as the schemes progressed, in Damodar Valley they diverted their attention towards thermal electric stations—the Bokaro Thermal Station. Nothing has been done so far for irrigation. So also in the matter of Hirakud for at least three years there was not much done on irrigation; all the attention was paid to the hydro-electricity project. So, whatever the plan was, it was not carried out in the beginning. In the case of Hirakud, although up till last year it was said that Power House No. 2 would be ready to operate in August or September this year—I myself visited it in January last year: a good deal of work had been done—the Government of India only this year decided to postpone that power station and to take up irrigation, to build the canals quickly. Now, nearly Rs. 2 crores have been spent on the power channel and Power House No. 2. That will be kept in abeyance for may be four or five years. Who will pay the interest and the maintenance charges

that will accrue on the power channel and the power house?

An Hon. Member: Make it a charge on the CWINC engineers!

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Certainly it should be on the Government of India. I will point out several other instances in the Hirakud project where money has been wasted. That money is written down every year as a loan to the Orissa Government and also interest for the previous year along with the loan of the present year: that is to say, if last year's interest was Rs. 30 lakhs: this year's loan of Rs. 3 crores becomes Rs. 3,30,00,000.

Now, Sir, you will also see that it is a fact that the Government of Orissa on the plea that they did not have expert engineers to carry out this project, approached the Government of India, and the Government of India in its turn handed it over to the CWINC as it used to be, which is now the Power Commission. And we have unfortunately a clique there: from the engineers on top to the petty contractors they happen to come from a particular State. I wish to disabuse the minds of hon. Members of any impression that I am in any way provincial minded. I am not provincial minded at all. Those who have heard me speak on different subjects must have known by this time that I do not attach myself to any particular province. But here is a case where people from a particular locality—engineers, their sons-in-law, brothers, brothers-in-law, their nephew,—are contractors, executive engineers, superintending engineers; the whole lot of them from top to bottom belong to the same group, the same clique. Contracts worth 4, 5 or 6 lakhs of rupees are not advertised all over India but are given to a group of contractors who are stationed there at Hirakud and they apportion the contracts among themselves according to their needs; and the local people, the people of Orissa.—I do not mean to say Orissians alone but all the people resident in Orissa whether their origin is from the Punjab or from Bengal or from Madras—do not get any benefit out of this stupendous expenditure of nearly a 100 crores of rupees. That will be the Bill for the project when it is completed. Now if we have a project for which we and our children and grandchildren will pay, we must have some benefit out of it. It is unfortunate as I said before that the Government of Orissa handed it over entirely to the Government of India and they in their turn gave it to the CWINC which has resulted in such a set up. But it cannot be allowed to continue any more. I wish to say also that because of certain

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irregularities discovered during the last year, which were talked about in the district of Sambalpur even in 1950, on account of those irregularities a committee was appointed last year which reported some time ago but the report has not come before the House yet. I have reliable information that the engineer members of that committee put up the claim that the payment of the bills will be done by them, while the Finance Department representative on that committee said otherwise i.e. that the Finance Department will check the bills and pay the bills. Whatever that be, we want that report to be laid on the Table of the House and publicised so that the public all over and particularly the public of Orissa will know how money has been squandered away—the money which will have to be paid by the taxpayer of Orissa and his successors.

Then again there has been another committee to look into the technical side of it. That report also has not come before this House. I particularly accuse this Government of India—the present Government—of appointing committees to enquire into matters and after the enquiry is made, if there is something inconvenient to the Government or to the highly placed officers, the report is shelved. Excuses are given, such as, law suits are being instituted against the people concerned in it and the report never sees the light of the day. I am sure the House will remember the report of the committee that enquired into the pre-fabricated housing factory. That has not seen the light of the day yet. I on behalf of the people of Orissa and the taxpayers of Orissa make this demand that the reports of these two committees must be laid on the Table of the House forthwith. Otherwise I will myself see to it that in future the Government of Orissa will repudiate the sums that have been wasted in this power channel and in the power house that will remain without operation for the next five or six years, and the money that has been wasted in contracts through nepotism and corruption. It is not my intention as a Member of the Opposition to oppose everything that the Government does. My opposition is always constructive. I am not one of those who condemn the big hydro-electric projects. I am one of those who support them and even before this Government went into this hydro-electric proposition, from what I had seen years ago in America I was for it. But you cannot make this country into America overnight. It will take time and in this connection I wish

to give a reply to the learned professor Dr. Meghnad Saha who might have created a wrong impression in the House when he said that in America they bungled for 30 years and then from that bungling they learnt and made their organisation complete and efficient. That does not mean that we are entitled to bungle for 30 years. If we have any intelligence at all, we should learn from the bunglings and mistakes of America or Russia or any other country and cut short that 30 years to one year or even six months. It is not that there is no intelligence in this country. If I had anything to do with the Hirakud project, I would go to South India, to Madras, to Mysore and get the men who do the work within the scheduled time. You will know from these facts that I am not provincial. But at the same time I would instruct them and I would also see to it that the sons of the soil get the benefit that they deserve according to their intelligence and according to their training and if they do not have the training, I would demand of the Government of India,—which the Government of Orissa has been demanding,—the establishment of a polytechnic institute or a college of engineering at Hirakud, because Sir, you will remember that besides Hirakud, the Mahanadi Valley Project consists of two other dams, at Tikarpura and Nara,—and other projects will be there—which may be built within the next twenty-five years. Now if we are going to have so many projects in the State of Orissa, is it not wise on the part of the people to manage everything from here e.g. to establish technical institutions which would train men to construct those future projects themselves without taking aid from anywhere or even from foreign countries.

There is also another anomalous position at Hirakud which I wish to mention to you, Sir. And that is, what the Savage Committee had said in 1948 about rehabilitation and resettlement of the villagers whose lands would be submerged. They gave the instance of Krishnarajasagar of Mysore and said: "This problem is obviously the special responsibility of the Orissa Provincial Administration. But, we strongly feel that the CWINC organization which is responsible for the unfettered development must share the responsibility. The Chief Engineer of the Mahanadi reservoir should have an abiding interest in dealing with this problem. From a psychological point of view this is essential, and the sooner the sympathies of the people that are affected by the submersion of their

villages and lands are secured by this organization, the better it is for an easy progress of the works in general."

Now I wish to say right here that instead of winning the goodwill of the people of Sambalpur the authorities from top to bottom have got nothing but illwill in this matter. Because acquisition proceedings in the case of lands that were to be acquired have also been bungled by the Government of Orissa. The Government of Orissa wanted to give them less money than they were entitled to according to the Land Acquisition Act and in a hurry somewhere about 1948 or 1949 they passed an emergency legislation by virtue of which the acquisition price went down by about half. Since then the people in Sambalpur have been agitating against it, and I understand that during the last few months the Government of India has taken the decision of giving them adequate compensation—I believe it will be adequate although I do not know the figures. That is why the estimate for the whole project has gone up by about Rs. 5 or 6 crores. Then again, when we see such a project which will displace people, which will cause a lot of trouble in the ordinary life of the people of the locality, the officers concerned, the parties concerned, the Governments concerned should see to it that the people affected are inconvenienced as little as possible. Instead of doing that the project officers have forcibly occupied lands and have forcibly taken roads over cultivated lands. I have seen it myself last year and I have brought it to the attention of some of the officers. These are little things that are irritating the people of the district. (*An hon. Member:* Not little). They are little from our point of view when we look at big things, but they are very big for them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is going on a little leisurely. He has exceeded 15 minutes.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Have I? Then I will conclude in a minute.

I wish to repeat that unless the whole set-up in the Hirakud Project is overhauled anew we will suffer losses of crores of rupees.

Shri B. Das (Jajpur-Keonjhar): You are quite right.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: And those rupees will have to be paid by the taxpayers of Orissa this year or within the next thirty years but will be paid even by the next generation. This is not fair to the tax-payer, and I, on their behalf, lodge this protest. Therefore it is very necessary for Government to see

to it that wastage of money is stopped, whether at Hirakud or at Damodar or at any other place.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Some centuries ago a Chinese king asked his philosopher-adviser as to the method by which his dynasty would prosper perpetually and would be honoured by the people at large. That philosopher advised him saying that if there is sufficiency of food, sufficiency of clothing, sufficiency of accommodation, and a faith among the people that justice would be done, then his dynasty would remain till the end of the world. I think these are adequate tests for any Government to remain in power and no Government has a right to remain in power, much less a democratic Government, which does not discharge the elementary obligations of providing sufficiently for the primary needs of the people, namely food, clothing and accommodation.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : तो यह
गर्वनभेट कैसे है ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Hazari-bagh West):** Why does this Government continue to be in power then?]

Shri Gadgil: Have a little patience, Valmiki. You will hear everything.

Shri B. Das: Sir, can the hon. Member call my hon. friend here Valmiki?

Shri Gadgil: It is a title of honour, my dear Das. Do not worry.

The main problem in this country as everybody knows is that of food and it cannot be solved except by increasing the yield per acre in this country. You can add to everything in this world, but you cannot add one inch to the land which is already available. Therefore, the solution lies in the direction of having greater yield from our acres, whatever they are. That is only possible if there is adequate supply of manure, organic and chemical, and plenty of water for irrigation. Then it means that unless irrigation facilities are increased hundred-fold in this country the problem of food is not going to be solved whether you are dogmatic about control or decontrol. Today, Sir, we are using only 6 per cent. of our water resources and the rest, though given in abundance by God, is carried by the river basins ultimately into the seas and becomes saltish. Here is a challenge to our engineers, a challenge to our statesmen and financiers. If they can in the course of five to ten years increase the use of our water resources by, say, one or two per cent, then not only will the problem of food be solved but there would

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be no necessity, although the desirability will remain, for family planning. Some preliminary surveys have been made by the Government of India and the result is published in a pamphlet released in 1948—"New Projects for Irrigation and Power in India". If all these projects are completed we are told that we will add 27 million acres and bring them under cultivation in addition to the 48 million which are under irrigation at present. Also, we are told that while today we have hydro-electric power to the extent of just about ½ million K.W. we will be able to add 9 million K.W. But all that depends upon how we make use of the material we have. In fact, I am inclined to say just as my esteemed friend, Mr. C. D. Deshmukh said the other day that the mother earth laughs when you talk of poverty. I will just make a little change. These rivers, as they go down from the mountains to the sea, laugh at us when we say we are poor. Today we have under construction some of these schemes. They are big schemes, but whether we should enter on big schemes or not the point remains that unless we make the maximum use of our water resources food question is not going to be solved. In our Upanishads it is stated:

अन्नं न निघात्—तद् व्रतम् । अन्नं न
परिचक्षीत—तद् व्रतम् । अन्नं बहु कुर्वन्मि-
तद् व्रतम् । I would say जलं न
विघात्—तद् व्रतम् । जलं न परिचक्षीत—तद्
व्रतम् । जलं बहु कुर्वन्मि—तद् व्रतम् । Same
Upanishad says आपो वा अन्नम् ।

[Despise not foodgrains—that is a pledge. Waste not foodgrains—that is a pledge. Grow more foodgrains—that is a pledge. I would say, "Despise not water—that is a pledge. Waste not water—that is a pledge. Develop the water-resources—that is a pledge". The same *Upanishad* says, "Water is food." And when you do that—

अन्नवानन्नाशो भवति । महान् भवति
प्रजया पशुभिर्ब्रह्मवर्षसेन । महान् कीर्त्या ।

[A man having foodgrains lives on them. He attains eminence by virtue of his children, cattle, religious sacrifices and renown.]

Therefore, *anna* can be plenty if water is plenty. By God's grace, we have plenty of water and no band of engineers can evolve a better system of rivers in this country than what God has done. We have in the north rivers flowing both in winter and summer, and in the south we have rivers flowing with abundance of water during the rains. We should spare no efforts to make the utmost use of these waters. We must see that not a single drop of water is wasted, and the utmost benefit is extracted by way of utility to the public from this abundance which God has granted to us.

We are talking of full employment in this country. That full employment is possible only if a considerable load is taken off the land and diverted to industry. In other words, there must be more and rapid industrialisation. That industrialisation is not possible unless there is cheap and adequate supply of power. Here is cheap and adequate power supply which we can put to the greatest use. As our geologists will tell you, our coal resources will last for only sixty-five years more. After that, since it is a wasting asset, we shall be without any prospect of power from the utilisation of coal. It behoves us therefore as people endowed with forethought to think not merely of the needs of the present generation but of the future generations also. We have come in for a good inheritance both in materials and also in opportunities. Let us make the best of these opportunities, so that future historians may not write hundred years hence that the parliamentarians in the year of grace 1952. Spent their time in petty-fogging opposition and did not put their shoulders to a task which would insure to the benefit of successive generations of Indians. I appeal to my esteemed friends to co-operate in that spirit.

Now, power is very short in this country. Prof. Vakil published a pamphlet only three months ago, in which he explained that due to inadequacy of power many plants in Bombay could not work to full capacity and several of them had to abandon their programme of expansion (*Interruption*.) I am not yielding to anybody. In terms of money, he calculated that the loss incurred was Rs. 50 crores, though a spokesman of the Bombay Government calculated it to be Rs. 10 crores. Be that as it may, due to lack of forethought, due to lack of early decisions, we have suffered this loss in Bombay. I earnestly appeal to the Government and to the Planning Commission to remember that Bombay is

highly industrialised. 34 per cent. of our industries are located there, and the needs of those industries are so great that stoppage of work for even a day means a loss of lakhs of rupees. If the Government are anxious to supply cheap and adequate power for industries in Bombay, they cannot do it except by accelerating the construction of the Koyna Dam. This is necessary also for helping the rising industries in Maharashtra and I am grateful for the great sympathy shown by my esteemed friends from the Opposition.

Shri B. Das: We always do.

Shri Gadgil: In giving priority to some of the power schemes, attention must be first given to the larger industrialisation of certain areas, whatever be the needs of other regions. I do not say that others should not be given priority, but obviously the logic of situation is so clear that such schemes as will give adequate power to already existing industries must be taken in hand first, because when there is more industrialisation there will be more employment. In other words, it is necessary that both irrigation and power projects should be so arranged that in the course of five or ten years there would be adequate irrigation facilities and adequate power supply for the whole country.

When I say this, I know that the great handicap under which we have to work is lack of finance. Yet, while I was discussing this matter, one of my friends who knows Sanskrit said:—

देशमुखे शासति सति को अर्थाभावस्य

वकः।

[There is no question of lack of funds, while Deshmukh is at helm of affairs.]

So, when we have, not an ordinary Deshmukh but a Chintaman Deshmukh in charge of finance, where is the scope for lack of finance? But I am not goading him into entering on a scheme of reckless deficit financing. No. Both I and he belong to a race which is very keen in taking calculated risks. (*An hon. Member:* Keen or notorious?) But it will never take risks which will land the country in trouble. It does not matter, nevertheless, if it lands certain individuals in trouble. I would therefore appeal to him earnestly to bear this in mind, because I find that deficit financing is in the air. Anybody and everybody, with or without knowledge of the consequences that may follow, is talking of deficit financing.

With great difficulty, our economy during the last five years has been put on a sound basis, although it is not as if it is not capable of expansion for meeting the requirements of our progress. But do we not again find the threat of inflation in the world? Very recently, in one of the issues of the *New York Times*, I read that the ten topmost economists of America felt that inflation was at the corner. Things are uncertain in the world, although our Finance Minister was quite right when he said that the back of inflation had been broken in our country. We must know that we are not living in isolation—economic or political—and whatever happens outside the four borders of our country affects us immediately. Therefore, it is not necessary to tell him anything, because it is his nature to be cautious. But let us strengthen his hands and not insist on reckless, unbounded, and unthought out deficit financing.

Then, the question of execution of some of these big projects was discussed. I had something to do with these river valley projects. In fact, if the House would permit me, I would say that they are all my babies. When I went to Sambalpur, the Oriyas through their representatives complained that most of the employees were Punjabis. I assured them that I would look into the complaint, but I told them, "If Punjabis are employed now, they will leave when the project is completed, and whatever good will follow from the project will remain for eternity for the benefit of the Oriyas." Let us understand that Indian prosperity cannot be parcelled off regionally. It is one and indivisible.

Shri B. Das: You will not allow these Punjabis to come to Maharashtra.

Shri Gadgil: Yes, I will. In fact, my esteemed friend earned his reputation and fortune in Maharashtra. If an area in Gujarat becomes prosperous, or if an area in Maharashtra becomes prosperous, nobody should complain about it. I hold the view that prosperity is one and indivisible. That does not mean that I rule out all regional considerations, but they must be fitted into an overall plan, so that in course of time not only will the standard of a few workers in the industrial areas but the standard of every landless labourer in the country will be raised equitably and proportionately. (*An hon. Member:* Will it be raised?)

A point was made that the Government of India had made mistakes here and there. Surely, the Government do not claim infallibility. I do not think they claim that they are all-wise; nor

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do their engineers claim so. I want to tell my friends that big schemes and a petty accounting mind will go together. When we are thinking in terms of crores of rupees, millions of acres of land and hundreds of kilowatts of power, only a petty mind can point out that a certain unit was wasted; a few acres of land were lost; a petty contractor did something wrong.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Waste in crores.

Shri Gadgil: Not that we should not take notice of these things too. In fact, some agency was brought into existence in the matter of D.V.C. and a Control Board was established for the Bhakra Project. In regard to the D.V.C., there has been much misunderstanding. I was responsible for piloting the Bill under which the Damodar Valley Corporation came into existence. The mood of the House then was that there must be complete autonomy. Later on the mood of the House changed, and today some of the Members feel that so much autonomy should not be given. This is after all an experiment, but this should not affect the carrying out of great works which will benefit not only Members of one party or one section of the public but which will benefit the entire country. I therefore earnestly say: by all means find out faults—after all, what are you here for? The business of the Opposition is to oppose—but at the same time in a democratic country the Opposition ought to know that the day may dawn, ten years hence, when some of them will be on this side and then they will resent this criticism or criticism of this type much more than the present Members of the Treasury Benches who have been as mild as is possible under the circumstances. I would therefore, very earnestly say that multi-purpose river valley projects is something which is going to solve our basic problem, and in this we should give our heart-felt co-operation. Not only this, but when the Five Year Plan is being put into operation, as one of the Members has said, it can succeed, not because of many tractors, not because of many dynamos that may work, but only if the people who are ultimately to be benefited thereby are enthusiastic about it. And I hope the creation of that enthusiasm is not only the duty of the Government, it is as much the duty of the Opposition. In fact, it is the duty of every son and daughter of this country and I hope in that spirit the whole thing will be understood.

Shri Gopala Rao: I wish to speak about irrigation and power projects in general and multi-purpose river valley projects in particular. In the original time-table, Planning and River Valley Schemes were put together but now Planning has been separated from these River Valley Schemes. Now we have to discuss River Valley Schemes without Planning. And it is very painful to discuss planless schemes.

11 A.M.

Throughout the country for a long time there has been a lot of agitation for irrigation projects and power projects. In the last four or five years the Government is forced to take certain steps. However, now there are several projects planned out, some big and some small, some irrigation and some power projects, and some projects of a multi-purpose nature. The aims and objects of these projects are control of flood, solving the food problem, improving irrigation facilities, improving navigation facilities, and generation of hydro-electric power. In the Five Year Plan the Government's total estimated cost in respect of power and irrigation projects is more than Rs. 700 crores. It is calculated that by the end of this Five Year Plan there will be 8.8 million acres of additional irrigated area and 1.1 million kilowatts of additional generation of power. I see for the time being in the Five Year Plan the Damodar Valley Project, the Bhakra-Nangal Project and some two other projects have been taken. The work in respect of these projects has been started at different levels.

The question is whether the Government is capable of completing these projects, whether the Government is in a position to enthuse the masses to participate in the big national task, whether the Government is in a position to face the situation instead of continuing the same rotten, bureaucratic machinery and thus carry out the task on a nation-wide scale. Can the Government complete these projects without a sound and stabilized economy? Can we complete these projects relying completely on our economy or with some foreign aid and foreign technical help? These are the things to be discussed.

But before I deal with these aspects I would like to draw attention to those areas which have been neglected in the matter of giving priority, where the food problem is acute and famine has become chronic. For instance, take Malabar. Famine has become a regular feature there. It is the duty of a

responsible Government to find out a final solution for relieving the distress in that area. But in the Five Year Plan or in the investigation schemes that area is completely left out. I came to know from many of our friends here that the only project that was being constructed, namely the Malam-puzha project, has also been stopped. It was calculated that thousands of tons can be produced by this project and it was estimated that it could be completed by the end of 1953. But that project has been stopped now. As such I doubt whether the Government are serious and sincere about their aims and objects with respect to their production schemes. Otherwise, what were the reasons that led to the Government's decision to stop that scheme which was essential for the life of the people, especially in the famine-stricken area which has become a problem for the Government and the people also there?

Coming to other sectors, in Andhra there are two great rivers, namely Kistna and Godavari, flowing. But unfortunately very often eight districts are faced with famine. You know Rayalaseema. Many of the leading Members and hon. Ministers were speaking a lot about the conditions in Rayalaseema. But we do not find any solution, any concrete steps taken, or any action in regard to the investigation of projects or any attempt to include certain immediate projects that are possible with a view to getting rid of the famine in that particular area. So far as the Andhra province is concerned, if the water of these two great rivers is harnessed, the face of the whole country will be completely changed. It is tragic to note that only an insignificant portion of the water is being utilised for irrigation purposes. For the last 4 or 5 years in Andhra there is a big agitation going on for the Nandagonda project which will serve 8 districts, Telangana, Rayalaseema and some other parts and serving most of the telgu speaking areas. It is a feasible project as well and about 6 million acres of land can be irrigated and 1 lakh kilowatts of electricity can be generated and according to expert opinion, it can be developed into one of the finest and best projects in the world. There is availability of material and with minimum cost—the project is estimated to cost Rs. 65 crores—and maximum results and complete co-operation of the people concerned in the area, it can be completed in no time, but in spite of big deputations and so much agitation, the Government have frankly refused to consider it. I do not find even a

provision for investigation in this budget.

There is another project. Even though it is small, it will be useful for two districts of Rayalaseema, Kurnool and Cuddapah. It is called Siddeshwaram Project and under this 11 lakhs of acres can be irrigated with an expenditure of Rs. 30 crores and it can be done in parts also. Even this the Government have refused to consider.

As for Godavari river valley projects, two projects Rampadasagar and Ramagundam were being discussed and the investigations had been going on from 1944 but these are not taken into account. They are neither included in the Five Year Plan nor any provision for investigation has been made in the budget. I think that backward and undeveloped areas which are famine stricken must be given priority. If these projects are taken up, so many other problems also can be solved. In view of these considerations, it is high time that Government should reconsider their opinions in selecting projects in future.

As regards the execution side of the projects, if you look at the way the D.V.C, Hirakud Project, Bhakra and Nangal Projects are implemented you will be shocked and astonished to hear the news that come from those areas, of how crores of rupees are being squandered away by a handful of interested persons, senior officers and contractors and some other people. Everywhere in every department, nepotism, favouritism, corruption and bureaucratism are very much in evidence. With this state machinery, it is highly impossible to advance in this front. I have received so many reports from several places, from the Hirakud Project in Orissa of cases where contracts had been given to favourite contractors. Some other speakers have expressed about it in the House. This is the way in which the projects are being built up in the country. People are not enthused at all. People ask: Are the projects intended for the benefit of senior officers and contractors?

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut Dist.—South): Has the hon. Member sent these reports that he has in his possession to the Ministry concerned?

Shri Gopala Rao: I have not sent.

Shri B. C. Das (Ganjam South): Does the hon. Member know that there is a big agitation in the Province of Orissa that the Hirakud project is a cess-pool of corruption? (Interruption).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There cannot be a general discussion. One hon. Member has put a question and that is enough. The hon. Member will kindly go on.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): There is no use making sweeping remarks. I shall be grateful to the hon. Member if he could pass on some such incidents... (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Nothing can go on in this House if all the hon. Members belonging to the Opposition stand up simultaneously and talk. There must be some order and decorum. Let them build arguments convincingly and when some authority is wanted, let them pass on such letters. They ought not to hesitate to produce them if they have got them in their possession.

An Hon. Member: They are not in their possession.

Shri Gopala Rao: On account of the interruption, I have lost 2 minutes. From a careful reading of the Estimates Committee's report, one can imagine how things are going on. On page 24 it is stated: "Large establishments and consulting firms are eating away a good deal of the finances without any foundation stone being laid." These are the sentences from the report which hon. Members of this House have prepared, that even without a foundation stone being laid, a lot of money is being spent. The report further says: "When the scheme was actually started, it has been subjected to constant changes under the stress of too much consultation and advice." In the Hirakud Project the priority was given for power scheme in the first instance but later on after spending some Rs. 1½ crores by new order, they changed the priority from a power project to an irrigation project. All of a sudden the work was stopped abruptly and all the men and materials diverted to an irrigation scheme. So much money had been invested and so much loss was incurred and what a colossal waste?

Shri Tyagi: The power scheme was not given up altogether.

Shri Gopala Rao: What is the fun of wasting so much money and diverting all the men and machinery, I ask?

Shri Velayudhan: Has it not been wasted? That is the question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may be allowed to go on. He

has got only one minute more in spite of the extension.

Shri Gopala Rao: I hope you will take into account these interruptions, Sir. According to the Estimates Committee's report, there were no schedules of rates and there were no stock registers maintained in Hirakud Dam. Public property is used for private purposes by senior officers. One agency was utilised for different functions. A favourite, a friend and a senior officer can be a contractor, a consultant, a store-keeper or an inspector of store-keepers. This was the shameful state of affairs there.

As for the technical side, the report has correctly pointed out that national talents and technical skill in this country must be properly tapped, but lakhs of rupees were being spent in obtaining foreign advice. This really indicates the policy pursued by the Government itself. For every simple thing they rely on American experts and American technical staff. For material, for men, for everything, we completely rely on foreign aid. Some hon. Members of the House had also been to China in the cultural delegation and we all heard their speeches. They said in one voice now there was mass enthusiasm in participating in the nation building activities. In India, go to the areas where work is going on. Do you find any mass enthusiasm? Can you arouse that tremendous enthusiasm which you find in China? No. The people are so completely demoralised and disappointed because we have not taken into account their co-operation and the conditions for rousing enthusiasm are not there. That is the situation. Can these big plans be completed without the people? Minus the people, nothing can be achieved. I would request my hon. friends on the other side to take note of this. In China, the big projects and medium projects were completed without any assistance, technical, capital or other assistance from outside. The other day hon. Members of this House, while speaking glorified how these big things had been achieved without the intervention of foreign imperialists. In the words of the hon. Member,

"The Huai River project was not very great in the matter of engineering feat compared to some of the Indian projects. But, when one saw what had been achieved by the Chinese people without any kind of outside assistance or financial help, how 2½ million workers had built up this dam in six months, one could not but share the pride of the Chinese people."

The hon. Member continues to say:

"As an Asian, I also shared that pride. I shared that pride because I found here a people who for the first time had attempted a gigantic task which we thought was beyond our powers."

That is the message of the Chinese people. We have to take note of this experience. Are we not in a position to achieve these things? We can certainly achieve. Our people are patriotic; our potentialities are great. If they are properly harnessed, we can achieve marvellous results. If not better, we can equal them if we rise to the occasion and mobilise our people. That mass enthusiasm is lacking. I request hon. Members on the other side to take this into account and shape their policy in the future.

Shri N. P. Sinha (Hazaribagh East) : I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak today at a time when the House has already crossed its maiden stage. Any way, this will be my first speech in this House. I am glad that before I have started to speak, I have had the goodluck of hearing some beautiful speeches, some constructive and some only destructive.

So far as these river valley schemes and multi-purpose schemes are concerned, the Government of this country could not have entertained any hope of solving the food problem of this country without having undertaken these projects. As the Chairman of the DTVA had once said, "A river has no politics," I say the same thing with greater emphasis that we Indians have also no politics. We have only one politics, and that is, to solve the food problem of India. If that main problem, on which the whole economic structure of India hinges, remains unsolved, all other problems will go un-cared for and without anybody to look after them. The point that I would like to make out is this. The first and most primary thing, that we need today to carry out these river valley schemes, is to enthuse the people. I take up the point where the hon. Mr. Gadgil left it. He said that it is very necessary to create a great amount of enthusiasm amongst the people and convince them about the purposes, about the usefulness of these schemes before any achievement can be hoped through these river valley projects. The question is, how we can do this? Unless we are of one mind, unless we agree at least on one thing, in spite of there being different parties, that is that we have to solve the food problem, nothing can be achieved.

Recently, I was reading in the *Fortnightly Review of News and views*, published by the British Information Services, that there are even persons who opposed the development plans of all countries, not with a good motive, but with a sinister design and in order to, shall I say, effect a *putsch* a German word, which means, to take charge of a Government by force or by fraud and to control the State. If these things continue, we cannot achieve any results from these river valley schemes. The *Review* says; I am not addressing this to those who are opposing us, but to any of us who are opposed to the Schemes:

"They may also take the opportunity to pursue their economic campaign. There have been several signs recently that they are uneasy about the progress of the Colombo Plan in Asia. They are obliged to dislike the prospect of economic improvement in Asia—which the Plan holds out—because the communist doctrine is that Revolution can best be brought about as a result of 'increasing misery'."

If these things are at the background of these Schemes, and if these are the principles on which most of the parties try to work out their programmes, then, I regret to say that no Government, with any amount of courage or boldness or finances, can try to finish any of the projects that they have undertaken, much less the Indian Government.

I would like to emphasise one thing and that is with regard to the Damodar Valley Project. It would not be wrong to say that I come from the T.V.A. of India. I come from the Damodar Valley. About three-fourths of this project fall within my district of Hazaribagh and a major portion of it within my own constituency. Therefore, I will not only rely upon the Fifth report of the Estimates Committee, which has been the basis and the background of the criticisms here but I shall also rely on some of the things which I have personally seen. In regard to rehabilitation, I say that the people who were going to be rehabilitated were actually worked up by the interested parties not to agree to that. They were advised not to agree to such rehabilitation and that, only with a view to putting the Government to difficulties and troubles. I have seen parties, who use the terminology of being progressive parties, making propaganda that these projects are of no value and that they are only meant to fill the stomachs of big officers who are there, and that they

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are also meant for the maintenance of those persons who have leanings towards capitalism. They have made this propaganda and this propaganda creates a good deal of misapprehension in the minds of the people whom we are going to enthuse; whose work, whose collective labour and energy we are going to use for the success of these projects.

And I therefore say, that unless these elements are rooted out, unless we combine and join hands at least in solving one thing, i.e., the food problem, in all sincerity, I am sure, no project of this Government is going to succeed.

Secondly, I would like to speak on a point which has a direct connection with this, and that is, Publicity. I have read some literature about the T.V.A., and there is a huge mass of such literature surrounding it. A good deal of propaganda is being made, even now, when it has already been acknowledged by the world as one of the best river valley schemes. That thing is lacking so far as the Damodar Valley scheme is concerned. There is no good propaganda. There is no intelligent publicity. People are not given literature in simple Hindi. They are not explained from day to day about the achievement, which is a national achievement. Everybody must have read in the newspapers, and I was, of course, present when the hon. Prime Minister visited Bihar only recently and visited the dams also. The Prime Minister questioned a few of the workers and asked "why are you cutting earth here?" The labourers said: "We do not know. Something great is going to happen. We are paid wages, we are asked to work and we are working." The Prime Minister commented: "If that be the fact, until people who contribute their labour know fully well of the greatness they are going to achieve, until that is done, I am sure there can be no immediate achievement of the objective which the Government has planned". I was just pointing this out with a view to emphasising that more and more propaganda and publicity are necessary. People are still working under certain misapprehensions. These misapprehensions have got to be removed, and so long as we do not work collectively, we cannot expect any good results.

The third point is this. I would ask Government, so far as Bihar is concerned—and I asked this in the Question Hour today—how much land is going to be irrigated, or is likely to be irrigated by the Damodar Valley

scheme in Bihar. I do not hold any provincial view but I want to know the case for Bihar. I read in the reports that Bihar is going to gain a good amount of power. But what will that power do? Bihar is a mica area, and so long as there is no introduction of heavy electro-technical industries, all mica is bound to be exported, and it has got to depend upon the vagaries of foreign markets. Why? Because it is not manufactured in India. We do not bring mica to its final use in India for want of heavy electro-technical industries. If these industries are opened, and the power which we are now going to get from this Damodar Valley Corporation project is utilised in this respect, of course, Bihar also has to gain in spite of helping other sister Provinces in many important respects.

The last point is this. What about "Bihar's Sorrow", the Kosi River? It is, I should say, "India's Sorrow". Every year it brings ruin to Bihar in gigantic proportions. Every year it creates havoc. And so far, only investigations have been completed. Beyond that, no step has been taken by the Government. May I ask Government, so far as Bihar is concerned, what is going to happen about this Kosi?

Shri R. N. S. Deo: It appears that our Ministers have a fondness for producing babies. Yesterday we heard paradoxically enough, from the Production Minister, that he does not produce babies, but he looks after the babies handed over to him by his colleagues, and today also we heard from hon. Member, Shri Gadgil, an ex-Minister, that these multi-purpose schemes are his babies. Well, Sir, naturally they must have a soft corner for these babies, particularly in connection with the Hirakud scheme. My hon. friend Sri Sarangadhar Das from Orissa has raised certain questions, particularly, the nepotism that is going on in Hirakud, how the Oriyas are being deprived of employment, of contracts, how there is not a single Executive Engineer or Superintending Engineer who is an Oriya. There is not a single contractor who is an Oriya. Hon. Shri Gadgil said that provincial feeling should not be raised in this House. He also said that Punjabis would go but the Hirakud dam would remain in Orissa. I quite agree, Sir—but let it not damn the people now. There is no reason why the legitimate aspirations of the people of the area should not be taken into consideration, why there should be wastage, why there should be lakhs of rupees thrown away at the whims

of certain officers, why buffaloes should be imported from the Punjab. We do not object to the Punjabis going and carrying out the project,—their being contractors or engineers. They are welcome, but why should Orissa pay for the best quality of buffaloes being imported from the Punjab for the milk supply of these officers.

पंडित ए० आर शास्त्री : वह दूध ज्यादा देती हैं ।

[Pandit A. R. Shastri (Azamgarh. Dist.—East cum Ballia Dist.—West): They produce more milk.]

चौधरी रघुवीर सिंह : वह इकनामि-कल होती है ।

[Ch. Raghur Singh (Agra Dist.—East): They are more economical.]

Shri R. N. S. Deo: Why should railway sleepers be imported from the Punjab or Himalayas to Orissa? We all know that the eastern states have been supplying Railway sleepers to a large portion of the B. N. Railway for ages. Now what was the necessity for importing railway sleepers from the Punjab?

These are questions which ought to be seriously considered. I do not mean, that all the criticism that is levelled against these river valley projects is justified. Some of it may be uninformed or mis-informed. That can be understood. But when there are so serious allegations about nepotism, about wastage, it is legitimate on our part to expect that Government should take serious note of these things. My hon. friend Shri Sarangadhar Das has already mentioned about the appointment of two Committees on this Hirakud project. Now, Sir, from a reply given only a few days back, we find that an interim report of the Padhi Committee is still under the consideration of Government and that the final report is awaited, but the reply indicates that the Government have not yet made up their mind whether finally they will place the report on the Table of this House. Similarly, with regard to the Mazumdar Committee, the report is under consideration. But when such serious matters have been alleged not only in Orissa itself, but also on the floor of this House, and committees have been appointed by Government, it is only legitimate on our part to expect that Government would take Parliament at least into its confidence and place those reports on the table of the House. In levelling these criticisms against certain

aspects of these river valley projects, it is inevitable that some scandal or the other is raked up. Yesterday the hon. the Minister for Production gave us a sermon not to rake up those scandals, and not to talk of a Ministry for Scandals. I had no intention of raking up any of these scandals today. But it was inevitable that those scandals would be brought up by somebody or the other. There is nothing which our Government need be afraid of, in hearing about these scandals. On the contrary, the hon. the Minister for Production, though he does not produce babies, yet he produced the proverbial mouse after the mountain being in labour; after going through dictionaries and encyclopaedias, he gave us a new definition of scandals, back-biting, slander etc. But he forgot to mention the ordinary meaning of scandals, as we understand it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is now talking on 'Ministry of Irrigation'.

Shri R. N. S. Deo: The multi-purpose river valley schemes are full of scandals, and therefore these irrigation schemes which are closely linked up with them are also full of scandals. I do appreciate that the hon. Member from Amraoti really gave the best definition of scandal. On the 20th May, 1952, he said that instead of accusing Government of these scandals, the Opposition ought to thank the Government for the scandals. His point was that it is to the credit of the Government that these scandals are being unearthed. I do not wish to criticize his point of view, but I would only say that the Opposition as well as the people of this country would be much happier, if our Government did not first create scandals and then try to take the credit for unearthing them, in which case, we would have saved a lot of wastage and a lot of unnecessary burdens on the different States.

A lot of criticism has been levelled against the manner in which the multi-purpose river valley schemes have been carried on, particularly in regard to the lack of proper project estimates before the starting of these schemes, the manner in which they have been executed, the wastage of money involved, and the lack of proper rehabilitation arrangements for the displaced persons. There was also a criticism made about the rise in the cost of these projects. There are many other aspects also, in which there has come about a feeling that things have not been done in the way in which they should have been done.

[Shri R. N. S. Deo]

As I said some of this criticism may not be fully justified. We may not have the proper facts before us to come to a proper conclusion. So far as the D.V.C. is concerned, the original estimate was 37.81 crores of rupees, and now it has increased to Rs. 74.98 crores. Of course, some reasons have been given for this increase; the increase due to the extension of the scope of the project is said to be about Rs. 15.83 crores, due to devaluation of the rupee, Rs. 3.95 crores; due to increase in prices, Rs. 17.39 crores. If there is good reason for this increase, and if Government after careful consideration is satisfied that this increase is reasonable, then of course, we should not have any objection to the increase, provided the financial prospects justify this increased expenditure. The delay in the execution of the projects is another aspect which Government have to consider and proper control and execution are matters on which the Government should have a clear idea. The Gorwala Committee which was appointed to report on the efficient conduct of State enterprises, recommended that for these multi-purpose river valley schemes, an autonomous board was the best; accordingly, for the D.V.C. an autonomous corporation had been set up. But I would like to ask if this is the proper form for a multipurpose river valley project, why similar bodies were not set up for the Hirakud and the Bhakra-Nangal projects. In the case of the Hirakud project, there is no such body at all. We have to avoid the two extremes, one is undue interference, and the other is the laxity of control and supervision. The Hirakud scheme was carried on more or less like a departmental affair. Therefore there have been so many scandals about it. In the case of the D.V.C. once Parliament decided that the work should be entrusted to an autonomous body; but the last report of the Gorwala Committee says; that there seems to be a confusion over the matter, and now there is a tendency to resent so much autonomy being given. It has been said that 'Annual reports are essential but the Corporation's time should not be wasted in continuously having to defend its existence.' Thus, it should not be our policy to interfere in the internal administration of an autonomous body. Once we decide to entrust a certain responsibility to a body, the internal administration should be completely left to that body, and only an overall general control should be exercised by either Government or by Parliament and there should no longer be this tendency to make the D.V.C. into a departmental

affair. At the same time we have also to avoid the other extreme of giving the departments of the Government under the ministries, complete freedom which lead to the situations that have arisen in the Hirakud project etc. In the case of the Hirakud project, I would suggest also another thing. In the Control Board which has been set up, the Chief Minister of Orissa has been appointed as the Chairman. I submit that he will not be able to serve the purpose that is intended, because as a Chief Minister, he cannot possibly devote the same amount of time to this important aspect as he should. Therefore, the Government should seriously consider the setting up of an independent Board, with an independent member as the Chairman. I would like to ask the Government...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up. I have given sufficient time to the hon. Member.

Shri R. N. S. Deo: There are other aspects of this planning...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What happens is that after the 15th minute, the hon. Members usually take up a new topic for discussion. There are three clocks in the Chamber, and the hon. Members should have a look at the clock also while they are speaking.

Shri R. N. S. Deo: Sir, I would only conclude by saying that Government should seriously consider the suggestions made by several hon. Members in connection with the exercise of a proper control over the working of these projects.

Shri B. R. Bhagat (Patna cum Shahabad): A distinguished foreign visitor who came to India some months ago described the two main problems of India as 'water' and 'babies'. He also said that if India took care of water, the babies would take care of themselves. I hope, Sir, with this statement every Member of the House will agree, and this statement also gives emphasis to the importance of the river valley projects. I think if the House will bear in mind the importance of irrigation and power in the economy of this country, they will give their serious consideration to every detail of the actual execution of the river valley projects. At present, India has a wide and great river-system and has ample water resources. It is a tragedy that at present only 6 per cent. of the water is being utilised for irrigation. Our total irrigated lands constitute only 18 to 19 per cent. of the total cultivated area.

Besides providing irrigation, the water resources are capable of generation of power which is so much important for the industrialisation of this country. So it is not a wonder—rather it is just and proper—that the Planning Commission should give so much importance to this aspect of the problem. The Planning Commission in its report has provided for Rs. 450 crores for the river valley projects and after the five years when they are completed or towards the last phase of their completion, another 140 crores is to be provided. The Planning Commission has rightly estimated that the food problem will be solved if during the five years this budget is able to provide additional irrigation to 8.8 million acres and generate power to the extent of 1.96 million kilowatts. It has also a long term plan that in 15 to 20 years we will be able to solve our economic problems, not only the food problem, if through a budget of 1400 crores the present total irrigated area is doubled and 7 million kilowatts of additional electric power is generated in the country.

So, given this background, I would like to examine some of the river valley projects that are under implementation and I would only add that the House cannot ignore the fact that on these projects alone the future of our country depends. We cannot provide a higher standard of living to the people of this country unless we successfully and economically implement these projects. We can bring happiness and prosperity to the rural areas only and only when we successfully implement these projects. Our civilisation, rather the civilisations of the world, were mostly river valley civilisations. We are bringing in more river valley civilisations in this world, but based on a different footing—on the technological achievements of the modern scientific age.

With these words I go to the Damodar Valley Project in which during the last two years I have tried to take a keen interest. During the last two years, the Damodar Valley Corporation came in for a great deal of criticism both in this House and outside, and the Estimates Committee has gone into the details of it as well as the other river valley projects and made its recommendations. But knowing, as I do, personally and coming from the same province in which the Damodar Valley Corporation is situated, it is a rather heartening thing for me to say that during the last six months since these matters were taken up in the House and the Estimates Committee visited the site and made its recommendations, things have improved enormously. The main

targets of criticism were the position of the Financial Adviser, the general working of the D.V.C., the economics of the first phase of the irrigation scheme, the whole financial, engineering and administrative set-up of the estimates and the project reports. I took keen interest in the financial set-up of the thing and I know that since the establishment of the convention that when there would be a difference of opinion between the Financial Adviser and the D.V.C. the matter should be referred to the Government for a final decision, things have worked very well. The financial set-up and the administrative set-up have improved and since the appointment of the Chief Engineer a few months back—rather about a year—the progress has gone on well and now we have reached the peak level of the progress. One dam, the Tilaiya dam, is going to be completed this year. The Bokaro thermal plant will be completed early next year within the estimate provided for it. Twelve crores of rupees were provided as the total estimated cost and it is a happy sign that the Bokaro thermal plant is going to be completed within that estimate. The only troubling feature is that the estimates of some of the dams in the first phase have recently shot up, wide of the mark. Firstly, it is a very unfortunate thing that the Damodar Valley Corporation started with very rough and sketchy estimates. The original estimates were, therefore, revised. But the fault did not lie with the present Government. It was started during the British regime. Secondly, the whole priority was changed from flood control and irrigation to power generation. I think hon. Members who have criticised the Corporation on these grounds are not justified to do so, since the work has gone on and the mistakes were committed long before this Government came into being or this Corporation came into existence and now the work cannot be stopped. There is no helping it. But if we look to the estimate of the Tilaiya dam, we find that after the revised estimate last year which was fixed at 1.33 crores, recently it has gone up to about 3 crores. Some of the explanations given by the Corporation in the inter-State conferences may be valid—that they did not account for the submerging of a national highway due to this dam and now about 20 lakhs had been provided for it, and another 20 lakhs for some thing which they did not take into account before. But whatever may be the explanation for that, I think any reasonable and proper estimate should have taken all these things into consideration. I am glad the Finance Minister is here. He should look into the subject. The

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bane of the Damodar Valley Corporation is not the wasteful expenditure as such. With personal knowledge of the thing, I can say that it is not the wasteful expenditure, but the lack of proper estimate, the lack of an integrated over-all expenditure in the first phase as well as in the second phase that is creating so much trouble. I am glad that the Finance Minister has taken keen interest in this respect, and I would request him to go into the details of the estimates of the Tilaiya Dam as well as the Konar Dam. The Konar Dam was originally estimated to cost Rs. 4 crores; now it has gone up to Rs. 9 crores. I know it may be said to be due to the rise in prices, to devaluation, and so on. But what I plead anxiously before this House is that the whole project should be estimated afresh and an overall financial picture of the project should be prepared. The project report must be drawn up afresh. With the exceeding of the estimates of these Dams which are nearing completion the problem has again cropped up, and I think this is the most opportune time to emphasise this point. It is more so because the work has now reached its peak level. We are going to spend Rs. 19 crores, and we will spend more in the next succeeding year and the year after that. The Maithon Dam and the Panchet Hill Dam are the most important dams because these are the only two dams which will deal with flood control which is so important and over which we are going to spend about Rs. 28 crores. The peak level of work will be reached on these two dams in the next two years. So, I beg of the Finance Minister and the Government that they should look into the estimates of these two big dams. Compared to them, the Tilaiya and the Konar Dams are small dams. These are the bigger dams, and they are the main dams as regards flood control and irrigation. What I repeat is that overall estimates should be prepared on the basis of the experience of the dams which have already been constructed. It has been stated that estimates for the Panchet Hill Dam have been prepared on the basis of the Maithon Dam. I hardly see any reason for that, because the Panchet Hill Dam, although it is of the same design and the same construction, is not just the same as the Maithon Dam. So, I think estimates should be prepared in each case, and the entire estimates should also be prepared in the background of an overall picture of the whole project.

So, I now pass on from the estimates of these projects to the next point,

and I am glad that the Finance Minister has again taken keen interest in the same. I refer to the economic and financial justification of the D.V.C. Now, the First Phase programme of the D.V.C. according to the revised estimate provides for a capital investment of Rs. 78 crores, and the gross revenue has been calculated by the Corporation as Rs. 5.8 crores. The working expenses after the First Phase is completed are calculated to be 1.71 crores; and deducting the working expenses from the gross revenue, the net revenue works out to be Rs. 4.1 crores. If you take the interest on the rupee loan and the dollar loan that have been given to the Corporation, the net revenue comes to 4.9 per cent. per annum. Now, flood control is not a paying proposition. The benefit is negative, in the sense that only in one year—I suppose in 1944—due to the devastating floods the country was put to a loss of Rs. 14 crores. So, negatively flood control is an advantage, but from the financial point of view flood control is a liability and a drain. So, if we exclude flood control, the revenue comes to 5.89 per cent. So, it is a very rosy picture of the financial and economic position. But there is a snag in it. The question was discussed in one of the Inter-State conferences held in Delhi perhaps in May last. It has been stipulated that the Damodar Valley Corporation will be able to pay its entire interest, which is now a capital charge during the period of construction, in the year 1964-65. But it is now realised that the Damodar Valley Corporation will not be able to clear off all the interest arrears in 1964-65; and only then, after the interest arrears are cleared off, will the refunding of capital begin. So, it seems that the refunding of capital is put off. If this is going to happen, the whole rosy picture drawn by the Damodar Valley Corporation turns blurred and even dismal. So, I would beg of the Finance Minister to examine this question. The economic and financial proposition of the scheme consists mainly in keeping to the time schedule of work and in seeing that each project is completed in the time schedule at the minimum cost. This is very important in judging the economic and financial aspect of the D.V.C.

12 Noon

After referring to these two points about the D.V.C., I would now like hurriedly to make a few suggestions. I will take two minutes, Sir. I wish to make a few suggestions regarding the administration of the

river valley projects. My first suggestion is that although we have in hand different river valley projects, there is absolutely no co-ordinating body in existence in the country; there is no pooling of the resources and the experience gained in the administration of the various river valley projects, and there should be a pool for the utilisation of the technical personnel and equipment in the different river valley projects. Since some of the projects are nearing partial completion, some technical personnel and equipment may be superfluous in one project yet may be needed in another. There should be co-ordination so that such personnel and equipment may be transferred from one project to another and their utilisation may be on a most efficient and economical basis. The time for this has come now when some of the projects may reach completion in a year or two.

My second suggestion is as regards the rules governing the pay of engineers. The rules of pay of the engineers and their terms of employment are such, that it is not always a very happy thing for an engineer under the employment of Government to join a river valley project where his services may be very much needed. So the conditions of employment should be uniform so that the river valley projects may draw to the maximum extent on the indigenous engineering talent and technical equipment. My third suggestion is that there should be decentralisation of the river valley projects administration in the sense that the three aspects of work—policy, planning and execution—should be separated and co-ordinated. The policy side should be taken up by the Cabinet. The planning should be done with the help of technical personnel by the Planning Commission. And the execution should be done by semi autonomous body. We have just now had the report from Hirakud which is very bad, and from Bhakra-Nangal, which is only subordinate to the Central Government, and from the Damodar Valley which is a bit too much autonomous. We want that the execution should be done by semi-autonomous body under the close control and co-ordination of authorities above, but still autonomous.

My fourth and last suggestion is that the future River Valley schemes should be integrated schemes and all the details should be dovetailed in one complete whole, and the entire picture of the economic condition of the country should be taken into account in making any integrated schemes of river valleys.

I do not want to deal with the question of public co-operation and mass enthusiasm, as it has been dealt with by my friends who have spoken before.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will now call upon Mr. Radhelal Vyas.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): Is the hon. Minister not replying today?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is indisposed and therefore he will not be replying today.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: So the baby is being carried by the Finance Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Members desire I have no objection to carry on till even 1-15 P.M. At 1-15 I will call upon the hon. Minister to speak and if he is not here, then on the next day there will not be any further discussion by the hon. Members but the hon. Minister will be called upon to reply.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): The hon. Minister will make his reply on the Planning day.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a suggestion that the hon. Minister will make his speech on the Planning day.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The way this subject has been split up makes it necessary that even the Demands be put later. So, therefore, I think it would be very convenient if the Minister in charge replies on the 1st and that was his suggestion and that all the transcripts of the speeches should be available to him to enable him to reply properly. In the meanwhile I am taking notes of the important points that are made here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister told me that he was indisposed. Therefore he will reply only on the day of Planning. Till then the discussion will go on. But I would request the hon. Members to confine their speeches to ten minutes each and give particular suggestions or point out certain irregularities which have been noticed so far. If they give only brief points, many hon. Members may have their chance to speak. And I also hope that they will kindly not embarrass me by compelling me to ring the bell every time. As soon as ten minutes are over, they should themselves finish their speeches without requiring the time bell to ring. Yes, now the House will sit till 1-15 today.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): I was only suggesting that out of the many river valley projects, one was Bhakra Dam also which cost the country Rs. 130 crores or something like that. And so far nobody has been allowed to speak on that subject. Of course I am not appealing for myself to be allowed to speak but I would beg of you to kindly hear somebody on the Bhakra Dam Project also.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): May I ask, Sir, if there is any Member in the list from Assam? I am sure the House would like to know something about Assam which is also subjected to floods.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I may tell the hon. Member that as regards Planning I do not see that any particular scheme has already been taken up and is in the process of execution. So far as Assam is concerned, the hon. Member can never be ignored and Assam will never be ignored because Assam starts with the first letter of the alphabet and therefore on the Planning day, the hon. Member will certainly catch the eye of the Speaker but not till then. Now so far as Punjab is concerned, immediately after Mr. Radhelal Vyas who speaks from Madhya Bharat I will call the Punjab gentleman. Yes now Mr. Radhelal Vyas.

श्री राधेलाल व्यास: माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे इस समय जो बोलने का अवसर दिया है, उस के लिये मैं आप का अत्यन्त आभारी हूँ। रिबर वैली योजनायें हमारे देश के लिये एक ऐसा काम करने जा रही हैं कि जिस से देश का सारा नक्शा ही आर्थिक दृष्टि से, कृषि की दृष्टि से और औद्योगिक दृष्टि से बदल सकता है और साथ ही मैं जिस अनाज पर हम अरबों रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, उस अनाज की कमी को भी दूर करने जा रही हैं और यही कारण है कि अनाज की कमी की वजह से प्लानिंग कमीशन (Planning Commission) ने सब से पहले उन योजनाओं को हाथ में लिया जो देश का खाद्यान्न जरा बढ़ा कर के देश को स्वावलम्बी बनाने की ओर अग्रसर हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में प्लानिंग कमीशन ने

यह चार विशेष सिद्धान्त निर्धारित किये थे। पहला नियम यह है कि जो योजनायें अभी चालू हैं और जिन पर काम हो रहा है वह सब से पहले ली जायंगी। दूसरा सिद्धान्त यह है कि वह योजनायें जो अन्न का उत्पादन अधिक बढ़ाने वाली हैं, उन को भी प्राथमिकता दी जायगी तीसरा सिद्धान्त है कि जो ज्यादा सस्ती हों, ज्यादा अच्छा नतीजा देने वाली हों और जो ज्यादा लाभ-प्रद हों, उन को भी पहले लिया जायगा और चौथा सिद्धान्त है कि किसी प्रदेश की आवश्यकता को देखते हुए और जो पिछड़े हुये प्रदेश हैं उन को समक्ष रखते हुए इन योजनाओं को प्राथमिकता दी जायगी। लेकिन माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे बहुत खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जो पिछले वर्षों में सारे देश में बड़ी बड़ी योजनायें थीं और जो पंच वर्षीय रिपोर्ट अप्रैल १९४२ से मार्च १९५० तक सेण्ट्रल वाटरवेज इरीगेशन एण्ड नेवीगेशन कमीशन (Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission) के द्वारा जारी की गई है उस रिपोर्ट के पृष्ठ ३२ पर एक नक्शा दिया हुआ है और उस नक्शे में बड़ी बड़ी नदियों की योजनाओं का जिक्र है। मैं जब उस नक्शे को देखता हूँ तो उस में यह देखता हूँ कि जितनी भी बड़ी योजनायें हैं, वह सारी की सारी प्लानिंग कमीशन में जिन के ऊपर कि काम शुरू होगा, वह ले ली गयी हैं। केवल एक ही ऐसा स्थान है, मध्य भारत और राजस्थान कि जिस की चम्बल योजना है जिसे पंच वर्षीय योजना में नहीं लिया गया है। इस योजना पर मध्य भारत ने लगभग एक करोड़ ३० लाख रुपया खर्च किया है और राजस्थान ने लगभग ३० लाख रुपया खर्च किया है, उस योजना के लिये जो पंचवर्षीय रिपोर्ट में अंडर कन्स्ट्रक्शन (under

construction) है केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से एक पैसा भी नहीं दिया गया है और न उस योजना को इस बजट में शामिल ही किया गया है। श्रीमान्, मुझे यहां यह कहने की आवश्यकता नहीं कि मध्य भारत और राजस्थान ने इन योजनाओं को बगैर केन्द्रीय सरकार की सहायता के या सहायता की याचना किये हुए कार्य प्रारम्भ किया था, बल्कि मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि जिस समय जापान ने ब्रह्मा पर कब्जा किया उस समय अंग्रेजों ने सब से पहले चम्बल की योजना को अपने हाथ में लिया और उस का कारण यह था कि ब्रह्मा से जो टिन (tin) और ज़िंक (zinc) मिलता था वह अंग्रेजों के हाथों से निकल गया था और इस प्रदेश के लिये टिन और ज़िंक की खदानें मेवाड़ स्टेट की ज़ावर खदानों के अलावा, और कहीं नहीं थीं और इन खदानों के लिये बिजली की आवश्यकता थी लेकिन जब ब्रह्मा पर फिर अंग्रेजों ने कब्जा कर लिया और वह खदानें राजस्थान गवर्नमेंट को लौटा दी गयीं तो चम्बल योजना उस समय स्थगित रही। इस प्रकार १९४२ में जैसा कि इस रिपोर्ट में बतलाया गया है इस योजना पर विचार शुरू हो गया था बाद में सन् १९४५ से इस योजना को वहां की सरकारों ने अपने हाथ में लिया। उदयपुर, कोटा और मध्य भारत और उसके पहले इंदौर ने इन योजनाओं पर विचार करना और काम करना शुरू किया, इस सिलसिले में उन में आपस में मतभेद था। हमारे गाडगिल साहब जो उस समय मिनिस्टर आफ़ वॉक्स एण्ड पावर (Works and Power) थे, वहां पर पधारे और उन्होंने मतभेद को मिटाने के लिये दो मीटिंगें कीं और जून १९४८ में सब को मिला कर के एक चम्बल टेकनिकल बोर्ड कायम किया जिसका चेयरमैन केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किया गया। उस बोर्ड

में एक प्रतिनिधि राजस्थान सरकार का और एक प्रतिनिधि मध्य भारत सरकार का था और उस बोर्ड ने एक योजना बनाई और माननीय गाडगिल साहब ने मध्य भारत में उस समय जो दौरा किया था और उन के जो भाषण हुए थे उस में उन्होंने यह कहा था कि जिस प्रकार भागीरथ ने गंगा को उत्तर प्रदेश में बहाया है, उसी तरह से यह चम्बल रूपी गंगा मध्य भारत में बहने जा रही है और यह योजना सारे मध्य भारत का बहुत बड़ा कल्याण करने वाली है। मध्य भारत की जनता यह आशा लगाये हुए बैठी थी कि इस योजना से पिछड़े हुए राजस्थान और मध्य भारत के प्रदेशों की आर्थिक उन्नति होगी, उन का औद्योगिक विकास होगा और साथ ही कृषि उत्पादन भी इस से बढ़ेगा और उन जगहों की जो बेरोजगारी और बेकारी की समस्या है, वह हल होगी, परन्तु मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि आज उस योजना को नजर-अंदाज करने से मध्य भारत में एक मायूसी सी छाई हुई है और लोग कहते हैं कि क्या करें, केन्द्रीय सरकार इस योजना के लिये अभी कुछ खर्चा करने को तैयार नहीं है। इसलिये नहीं कि वह मंहगी है, क्योंकि अगर आप उस योजना के आंकड़ों को देखेंगे तो जितनी भी और योजनायें हैं उन से यह पीछे नहीं है और खर्च की दृष्टि से भी अगर आप देखें तो औरों की बनिस्बत खर्चा भी इस में कम है। उपयोगिता की दृष्टि से देखें तो भी आप पायेंगे कि यह अत्यन्त लाभप्रद साबित होगी। इस योजना से १२ लाख एकड़ भूमि में सिंचाई हो सकती है और उस से दो लाख किलोवाट पावर जनरेट (generate) हो कर सारे मध्य भारत और राजस्थान को ही नहीं, बल्कि अजमेर और भोपाल और दोहद और उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ हिस्से को भी मिल सकती है।

[श्री राधे लाल व्यास]

जिस योजना पर मध्य भारत सरकार ने इतना रुपया खर्च किया और जैसा कि प्लैनिंग कमीशन का सिद्धान्त था कि जो स्कीम्स अण्डर कन्स्ट्रक्शन हैं वह अवश्य ली जायेंगी, उस के विरुद्ध हम देखते हैं कि पार्ट ए स्टेट्स की तरफ अधिक ध्यान दिया गया है और उन की जो योजनायें अण्डर कन्स्ट्रक्शन थीं वह सब ले ली गई हैं और उत्तर भारत की जो यह सब से बड़ी योजनायें हैं तथा मध्य भाग और राजस्थान की बड़ी योजनाओं के होने के आधार पर ही नहीं बल्कि वहां के लोगों का जीवन ही उन पर निर्भर है, उन को खटाई में डाल दिया गया है। मुझे शान्त का ध्यान खास कर इन योजनाओं की तरफ दिलाना है।

एक और बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह है कि यदि खाद्यान्न की दृष्टि से ही देखा जाय तो भी मॉटे तरीके से जो १२ लाख एकड़ की सिंचाई की हमारे यहां योजना है उस योजना को अगर हम सन् १९५२ में आरम्भ करें तो सन् १९५५ में सिंचाई चालू हो सकती है, और अगर लाभ की दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो पांच वर्ष में जहां २१ करोड़ रुपया खर्च पड़ेगा वहां उस पर पौने पांच फी सदी खर्च के दिनों में ब्याज पूंजी में शामिल करने के बाद पूंजी पर ब्याज मिलेगा। जब योजना पूरी हो जायगी तो उस पर काफ़ी मुनाफ़ा मिलने वाला है। साथ ही आबपाशी पर जहां इतना रुपया खर्च होने वाला है वहां बैटरमेंट फ़ीस (betterment fees) के रूप में छः करोड़ रुपया इस योजना से सरकार को मिलने वाला है। इस प्रकार से पांच वर्ष में जो खर्च इस योजना पर होगा वह केवल २१ करोड़ रुपया है, यदि इस की व्यवस्था न हो सके तो इस के लिये मध्य भारत और राजस्थान

की प्रजा पिछड़ी हुई रहे, वह दुखी रहे, और जो आशायें उस को केन्द्रीय और प्रान्तीय सरकारें देती रहीं उन से यह स्टेट्स बंचित रहें ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये।

श्रीमान्, प्लैनिंग कमीशन ने जो सिद्धान्त निर्धारित किया था उस की ओर खास तौर से मैं माननीय अर्थ मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। प्लैनिंग कमीशन की जो ड्राफ्ट रिपोर्ट है उस के सफ़ा ४२ में बतलाया गया है:

"In allocating financial aid from the Centre for the various State plans, care has been taken to meet as far as possible the requirements of the more backward areas. In allocating Central assistance to Part B States, their special needs for bringing up the level of administration and social services to that of Part A States have been kept in mind."

मुझे इस सम्बन्ध में यह पूछना है कि इस में जो यह सिद्धान्त प्रतिपादित किया गया है क्या उस का ध्यान राजस्थान व मध्य भारत के सम्बन्ध में रखा गया है? क्या मध्य भारत और राजस्थान की रियासतें पार्ट ए स्टेट्स के मुकाबले ज्यादा पिछड़ी हुई नहीं हैं। उन का सार पार्ट ए स्टेट्स के बराबर लाने का जो सिद्धान्त आप ने माना है वह समाप्त हो गया? जिस चम्बल योजना पर डेढ़ करोड़ रुपया खर्च हुआ है, जिन लोगों के गांवों की जमीन प्राप्त कर ली गई है, जहां काफ़ी स्टाफ़ रक्खा हुआ है, जहां कन्स्ट्रक्शन (construction) के लिये रोड (road) बन चुकी है, कालोनी (colony) बन चुकी है, जहां प्लांट (plant) और मैशीनरी आ गई है और सब मैटीरियल इकट्ठा हो गया है, दरवाजे बगैरह के लिये जो आर्डर जर्मनी को दिया गया था वह सब

सामान बगैरह भी आने वाला है, तो क्या वह सब बेकार जाने वाला है ? और क्या इस के लिये मध्य भारत तथा राजस्थान की प्रजा को पांच वर्ष तक और इन्तजार करना पड़ेगा ? मुझे निवेदन करना है कि यह जो योजना आप के सामने पेश हुई है उस का दूसरी योजनाओं से मुकाबला किया जाय और यदि उस में खर्च कम होने की आशा हो और लाभप्रद ज्यादा हो तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि मध्य भारत और राजस्थान के साथ न्याय न किया जाय तथा उन को इस से वंचित रखा जाय ।

एक बात और भी है । जितनी आज कल की बड़ी योजनायें हैं उन्हीं में से हाइडल (Hydel) योजनाएं भी हैं । लेकिन राजस्थान और मध्य भारत में हाइडल विद्युत का एक कीलें वाट भी मौजूद नहीं है । जहां सारे देश में अन्य राज्यों में हाइडल पावर है और जो नई नई योजनायें हैं उन से उन राज्यों को और भी अधिक बिजली मिलने वाली है तो उचित नहीं है कि मध्य भारत और राजस्थान जो सारे देश के मध्य में स्थित हैं वह बिजली से वंचित रहें । इन प्रदेशों में इस की और भी ज्यादा आवश्यकता है । और सब से बड़ा कारण इन योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने का यह है कि मोरना और भिंड बगैरह में ला एंड आर्डर (law and order) एक बड़ा भारी प्रश्न बन गया है और वहां पर बेरोजगारी और बेकारी अपनी चरम सीमा पर पहुंच गई है । और यहाँ हालत दिन प्रति दिन गिरती जा रही है । इस बेरोजगारी और बेकारी को रोकने का एक मात्र उपाय यह चम्बल योजना है । इसलिये मैं माननीय अर्थमंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करूंगा कि पांच वर्षों में २१ करोड़ रुपये के खर्च की जो बात है उस का खयाल, जो पिछड़ी हुई पार्ट की

स्टेट्स हैं और जो यह आशा लगाये बंठी हैं कि उन के साथ अन्याय नहीं होगा, उन के सम्बन्ध में अवश्य किया जाय । तथा जिस सिद्धान्त का प्लानिंग रिपोर्ट में प्रतिपादन किया गया है उस का इन रियासतों के सम्बन्ध में लिबरल (liberal) व्यवहार किया जाय जिस में उन के साथ सीतेले बेटे का सा व्यवहार न हो । आशा है कि इन रियासतों को फ्रस्ट फाइव इअर प्लान (First Five Year Plan) में शामिल किया जायेगा ।

अन्त में मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे समय दिया ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): Sir, I am very grateful to you for having allowed me to speak. The River Valley schemes have the potentiality to change the face of the country from the point of view of economics, agriculture and industry. They would also make up the food deficit which compels us today to spend billions of rupees. That is why the Planning Commission have taken in hand those schemes first which can put us on the road to self-sufficiency in foodgrains by increasing the production. In this connection the Commission has laid down four specific principles. The first is that priority would be given to those schemes which are in hand at present or on which work is proceeding. The second principle is to give priority to those schemes that are meant for increasing the production of food. The third principle lays down that those schemes would also receive priority which are more beneficial and fruitful in comparison with the amount to be spent on them and the fourth principle is that while giving priority account would be taken of the need of the particular areas and backward areas would also be taken into consideration. All the big River Valley Schemes included in the map on page 32 of the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission's Report for the five year period i.e., 1946-50 have been included by the Planning Commission in their Five Year Plan. But Sir, I regret to have to say that Chambal Scheme in Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan is the only scheme which has not been included in the Five Year Plan. Construction work on this scheme is under way

[Shri Radhelal Vyas]

and the Madhya Bharat and the Rajasthan Governments have spent Rs. 1 crore, 30 lakhs and Rs. 30 lakhs respectively on it. But not a single pie has been provided for in the Five Year Plan for this scheme. Nor has this been included in the Budget. Sir, I need not point out that the Madhya Bharat and the Rajasthan Governments started the work of this scheme without any help from the Centre, even without asking for any help. Rather I would like to say that the British authorities had taken up the work of this scheme when Japan had occupied Burma. The reason behind this was that due to occupation of Burma by the Japanese, the British lost the tin and zinc deposits found in Burma and there were no such deposits anywhere in India except in Jhawal in Mewar State. And electricity was needed for working these mines, necessitating the taking up of this scheme. But when the British reoccupied Burma, these mines were returned to the Rajasthan Government and the Chambal Scheme was suspended. As is indicated in the Report this scheme came under the consideration of the Government in 1943. In 1945 the Governments concerned took the scheme in hand. Indore State started the work on it followed by Udaipur, Kotah and Madhya Bharat. There was a difference of opinion among them on the subject. The then Minister for Works and Power, Shri Gadgil, went there and convened two meetings to settle the differences. In June 1948, the Chambal Technical Board was set up including the representatives of all the States concerned. The Chairman of the Board was appointed by the Central Government. One representative each of the Rajasthan and the Madhya Bharat Governments was there on the Board. The Board drew up a scheme. During his tour of Madhya Bharat at that time Shri Gadgil proclaimed in his speeches that as Bhagirath had brought Ganga to Uttar Pradesh, Chambal would be made to flow in Madhya Bharat and that the scheme was going to be very beneficial to the whole of the State. The people of Madhya Bharat had great hopes. They looked forward to economic progress, industrial development, increase in agricultural production and solution of the unemployment problem in the backward areas of Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat. But I am pained to say that people there are very much disappointed on account of the fact that the scheme has been totally neglected. They complain that the Central Government are not prepared to incur any expenditure on the scheme, even when it would not be costly. If we study

the facts and figures connected with the scheme we would find that it is not less ambitious than others and does cost less. From the point of view of utility also it would prove to be very useful. This would bring 12 lakh acres of land under irrigation and would generate two lakh kilowatts of electric power. It would supply power not only to the whole of Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan but also to Ajmer, Bhopal, Dohad and some part of Uttar Pradesh.

The Madhya Bharat Government have spent a lot on this scheme but it has not been taken over in spite of the principle laid down by the Planning Commission that schemes under construction would be taken over at all costs. We find that more attention has been paid to the schemes of Part A States and all those under construction in them have been taken over. But these schemes, which are some of the biggest in Northern India, and on which depend the chances of betterment of the lives of the people of Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan, have been put in cold storage. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards such schemes especially.

Let me point out that even if we analyse the scheme for development of irrigation from the point of view of expected increase in foodgrains production, we can expect good results as 12 lakh acres would come under cultivation after the completion of the scheme. If work is started in 1952, irrigation would begin by 1955. It would cost Rs. 21 crores in five years and the amount of interest that would be due during the period of construction, added to the capital, would amount to 4½ per cent. of the total capital. It would yield profits in another form after its completion. The Government would be able to collect Rs. 6 crores in the shape of betterment fees. This scheme would require only Rs. 21 crores in five years. Should the people of Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan remain backward, go on suffering and be deprived of hopes held out to people of other states simply because a provision for this amount cannot be made?

Sir, I would draw the attention, especially, of the hon. Minister of Finance towards the principle laid down by the Planning Commission. On page 42 of the draft report of the Commission, it is stated:

"In allocating financial aid from the Centre for the various State plans, care has been taken to meet as far as possible, the requirements of the more backward areas. In

allocating Central assistance to Part B States, their special needs for bringing up the level of administration and social services to that of Part A States have been kept in mind."

I want to know whether this principle was kept in mind while considering the case of Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan. Are these two States not more backward than Part A States? Have the Government abandoned the principle of bringing them to the level of Part A States? A sum of Rs. 1½ crores has already been spent on the Chambal Scheme. Lands have been requisitioned, stocks have been built up, a road has been constructed in connection with it, a colony has been built, plant and machinery have arrived from abroad, the sluice gates etc., ordered from Germany are about to come, and most of the material has been collected. Will it all go waste? Would the Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan Governments have to wait for another five years for giving a practical shape to the scheme? I want to submit that this scheme should be thoroughly examined and if it promises better results at less cost than other schemes, there is no good reason for depriving Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan of its benefits.

[SHRI PATASKAR in the Chair]

I would like to say one thing more in this connection. The big development schemes include those for generation of hydel power. In Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat not even a single kilowatt of hydel power is available, whereas hydel power is available in other states in the country and new schemes are going to augment the supply of hydel power in these states. It does not look proper that Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan, situated as they are in the centre of the country, should go without it. These states need it more than others. The main reason underlying the emphasis on this scheme is this: law and order have become a major problem in Morena and Bhind etc. where unemployment has reached new peaks. The situation is deteriorating day by day and the only way to eradicate unemployment is the Chambal Scheme. I would request the hon. Minister for Finance to see to it that Rs. 21 crores are spent in the next five years on this scheme so that the hopes of the backward Part B States, that justice would be done to them, do not prove to be barren. The principle laid down in the report of the Planning Commission may be liberally applied to these States so that they do not receive a step-motherly treatment.

I hope that the schemes of these States would be included in the First Five Year Plan.

Before I resume my seat I wish to thank you again Sir, for having allowed me to speak.

श्री हेम राज: सभापति महोदय, मैं आप का आभारी हूँ कि आप ने इस समय मुझे, जो कि गया भेम्बर हूँ, बोलने का मौका दिया।

बहुत दिनों से यहाँ तकरीरें हों रही हैं, बहुत से महाशुभावों ने, चाहे इस तरफ के हों या मुत्तालिफ़ बेंचों के, ऐसी तकरीरें की हैं, जिन से हम जॉ विश्व कुटुम्ब का नाम लेते हैं, प्रति दिन देखा जाता है कि हम ने उसे संकुचित हृदय से देखना शुरू कर दिया है। मैं तो समझता हूँ कि हमारे लिये सारा हिन्दुस्तान बराबर है, और हमारे कम्यूनिस्ट भाई तो और आगे जाते हैं कि सारी दुनिया ही उन की है, लेकिन मुझे यह देख कर दुःख हो रहा है कि यहाँ पर किसी किसी समय पंजाबी और उड़ीया का सवाल भी आगे आ जाता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि किसी समय पर भी पंजाबी ने, हालांकि वह उजड़ गये फिर भी, किसी के सामने जा कर हाथ नहीं फँलाया। अगर कह आज जिन्दा हैं तो इस वजह से है कि उस ने अपनी कमाई कर के, अपने खून और पसीने को एक कर के अपनी रोटी कमाई है। आज इस क्रिस्म के सवाल को पैदा कर के, मैं समझता हूँ वह पंजाब की शान को कम करने की कोशिश करेंगे। सभापति जी, अगर आज पंजाबी उड़ीसा में जाता है तो इस वजह से नहीं जाता कि वह कुछ मांगना चाहता है।

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सभापति जी, इतनी बात कह कर मैं अपने मजमून पर आता हूँ। पंजाबी आज

*अध्यक्ष महोदय की आज्ञानुसार अव-
सर्पित।

— [श्री हेम राज]

उजड़ गया लेकिन उजड़ने के बाद भी उस में इतनी हिम्मत थी कि उस ने पंजाब की स्टेट को जो कि बिल्कुल एक खिसारे की स्टेट थी, उस में जितनी नहरें थीं वह सब मगरिबी पंजाब में चली गईं, लेकिन उस के बाद भी, खिसारे की स्टेट होने पर भी वह दो लाख टन गल्ला सारे हिन्दुस्तान को देने को तैयार है। और इस बात को कहते भी नहीं कि हमें कमी है। यह पंजाब की फ़राख़-दिशी है।

इस के साथ ही यह स्कीम थी कि जो भाखरा डैम है, पंजाब की आज से नहीं बल्कि २७ साल पहले से यह स्कीम है, लेकिन अंगरेजों के जमाने में जो सारी स्कीमें थीं वह मगरिबी पंजाब के लिये थीं। वह लोग इस भाखरा नंगल स्कीम को पीछे डालते रहे।

आज में समझता हूँ कि हमारी कमी हुकूमत ने हमारे देश का बहुत बड़ा ममला हल करने के लिये जो कदम उठाया है उस के लिये मैं अपनी कौमी हुकूमत को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ। क्यों? इसलिये कि आज वह अंगरेजों की जगह डपलिये खर्च कर रही हैं कि आज जो गल्ला बाहर से मंगाया जा रहा है वह बन्द हो जाय। अगर यह भाखरा नंगल स्कीम पूरी हो जाती है तो जैसा कि आप की रिपोर्ट से जाहिर है यह साठ लाख ऐकड़ जमीन को सँराब करेगा और इससे जो गल्ला पैदा होगा वह इस क़दर होगा कि इससे आप के खिसारे का ५६ फ़ी सदी हिस्सा पूरा हो जायगा। पर हैरानी उस वक्त होती है, जब जो प्रोग्राम बनता है वह आगे को बढ़ता चला जाता है। पहले जो प्रोग्राम दो साल का बनता है वह दो साल के लिये और आगे बढ़ा दिया जाता है। जहाँ पहले इस के मुतालिक यह कहा जाता था कि

यह सन् ५१ या ५२ में पूरा हो जायगा उस के बारे में अब यह कहा जाता है कि शायद सन् ५४ में पूरा हो या सन् ५९ में पूरा हो। आज हालत यह है कि जब अमरीका से मैशिनरी मंगाई जायगी तो यह काम पूरा होगा। यह ऐसी चीज़ है जिस से देश की भलाई होने वाली है। यह देश गल्ले के मामले में खिसारे में है और इस के लिये आज वित्त मंत्री जी को काफ़ी खर्चा करना पड़ रहा है और वारों वारक से नुक़्ताचीनी मुननी पड़ रही है। अगर यह स्कीम पूरी हो जाती है तो उन का यह ममला भी जल्द हल हो जायगा। मेरी उन से प्रार्थना है कि उन को चाहिये कि वह इस स्कीम को जल्द जल्द पूरा कर लें। उन का खिसारे का ५६ फ़ी सदी हिस्सा एक चीज़ से पूरा हो सकता है। अगर वह स्कीम पूरी हो जाती है तो पंजाब जो कि आप को दो लाख टन गल्ला देता है वह जितना गल्ले का कमी है, वह सारा दे सकेगा। और यह जो हमारे कम्प्लिस्ट भाई जो कि सब्सिडी (subsidy) के लिये शोर मचाते हैं और नुक़्ताचीनी करते हैं इस में भी आप बच जायेंगे और देश का भी भला होगा।

यही नहीं है कि इस से सिर्फ़ पंजाब को ही पानी मिलेगा और पंजाब ही का बिजली मिलेगी। पंजाब के साथ ही साथ यह चीज़ें हमारे राजस्थान के भाइयों और पेप्सू के भाइयों को भी मिल सकती हैं। यह गिला किया जाता है कि पंजाब वाले सिर्फ़ अपने ही लिए चाहते हैं। हम तो उदार हैं हमारे पास जो चीज़ है उस को हम अपने पेप्सू और राजस्थान के भाइयों को देने के लिये तैयार हैं और अगर पढ़ूँ सके तो अपने उड़ीसा के भाइयों को देने को तैयार हैं। तो इस स्कीम से सिर्फ़ एक सूत्रे को ही

फ़ायदा नहीं होगा बल्कि इस से तीन चार रियासतों को फ़ायदा पहुंचेगा। साथ ही दिल्ली रियासत में जो बहुत से शहर हैं और जहां आज इंडस्ट्री (Industry) कायम की जा रही है उस को भी इससे फ़ायदा पहुंच सकता है। तो आज ज़रूरत इस बात की है कि जो आप ने इस की तारीख़ रन् ५४ तक या रन् ५९ तक बढ़ा दी है इस के बजाय और हफ़्ता लगा कर अगर मुमकिन हो सके तो पैडिनरी को फ़ौरन से फ़ौरन मंगवा कर इस को मुकम्मल किया जाय। अगर ऐसा नहीं किया गया तो लाजिमी तौर पर यह स्कीम बहुत जल्दी पूरी नहीं होगी और जो इस मुल्क का गल्ले का ख़सारा है वह पूरा नहीं हो सकेगा।

सभापति जी, इस के साथ ही मैं यह भी अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस से महज़ गल्ले का ही ख़सारा पूरा नहीं होगा बल्कि इस से साथ ही साथ जो आप ने इंडस्ट्रियल टाउन्स (Industrial towns) बनाये हैं उन को इस से बिजली मिल जायगी और इंडस्ट्री बनाया ही जायगी और इस से मुल्क का बहुत बड़ा भला होगा और इस से वह जो ग़रीब जनता है वह जो उजड़े हुए भाई हैं और जिन्हें की दरज़ से भी आप को नुक़्तान्वीनी सुननी पड़ती है उन का मसला भी बहुत हद तक हल हो जायगा।

श्रीमान् जी, मैं आप का बड़ा आभारी हूँ कि आप ने मुझे यह मौक़ा दिया।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Shri Hem Raj (Kangra): Sir I am grateful to you for giving me, a new member, this opportunity to speak.

For the last many days there have been speeches by hon. Members, on this side of the House as well as on the opposition benches, which give one the impression that we have begun to look upon the idea of universal brotherhood with narrow-mindedness. To my mind, all parts of India are equal and alike. Our Communist friends go

a step further and say that the whole world is their home. But I am pained to notice that the question of Punjabi and Oriya sometimes comes to the fore here. The Punjabis, though ruined and uprooted from their homes, have never approached anybody with the beggar's bowl in their hands. If they are alive today, it is because they earn their bread with the sweat of their brow. By raising this question, I am afraid, they are trying to lower the prestige of Punjab. Sir, if the Punjabis go to Orissa today, it is not because they want to beg for anything.

* * *

Sir, I shall now come to my subject. The Punjabis have been ruined. All the canals the undivided Punjab had, have gone to West Punjab. But still the deficit state of Punjab which now remains is prepared to give two lakh tons of foodgrains to India. Its people do not even mention the scarcity which prevails in their State. Such is the broad-mindedness of Punjab.

The Bhakra Dam Scheme of the Punjab is not a scheme of today. It was conceived 24 years ago, but during the British regime, all the schemes were made with the interest of West Punjab in view. The British tried constantly to delay the Bhakra Nangal Scheme.

I congratulate our National Government for the step they have taken to solve a big problem confronting the country. Why? Because they want to stop spending crores of rupees on imports of foodgrains from abroad. As the Report shows, the Bhakra Nangal Project on completion would irrigate 60 lakh acres of land and the quantity of foodgrains produced therefrom would be sufficient enough to wipe out 56 per cent. of the deficit. But the surprising thing is that every programme drawn up is extended. A programme which originally is of two years duration is extended for another two years. While previously it was stated that this Project would be completed by 1951 or 1952, now it is said that it might be completed in 1954 or even 1959. Today the position is stated to be that this task would be completed when machinery is imported from America. This Project is for the good of the country. To meet the foodgrain shortage in the country, the Minister of Finance has to incur a lot of expenditure and also to bear with criticism from all sides. If this scheme is completed, this problem of his would soon be solved. I would request him to expedite the completion of the scheme.

* Expunged as ordered by the Speaker

[Shri Hem Raj]

Fifty six per cent. of the deficit can be met only by this scheme. With the completion of this scheme the Punjab, which now gives two lakh tons of food-grains would be able to meet the whole of the shortage. In that event, the Government will be spared the hue and cry made by Communists and their criticism regarding food subsidies, and the country would derive much benefit. Not that it would supply water and electricity to Punjab alone. Besides Punjab, the people of Rajasthan and PEPSU would also get these benefits. A complaint is sometimes heard that the Punjabis only serve their own ends. But we Punjabis are liberal-minded and we are prepared to share our wealth with the people of PEPSU and Rajasthan, and if it can reach them, even with our friends in Orissa. This scheme will serve not one State, but three or four States. It would also be able to serve many towns in Delhi States, where industries are being established. What is needed is that instead of extending its date to 1954 or 1959, it should be completed by investing more money, if possible and by importing machinery from abroad as early as possible. If this is not done, it would not be possible to finish the scheme early enough and we would not be able to remove the shortage of foodgrains.

Sir, this would not only meet the food shortage, but would also provide electricity to the industrial towns. Industries would develop and the problem of the uprooted people, about whom you have to listen to so much criticism, would also be solved to a great extent. Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): It is very unfortunate that the debate has been split up, whereby people who want to speak on the river valley projects have been robbed of the opportunity of criticising the overall planning. After all, the river valley projects are the results of overall planning and I do not see how planning as such can be divorced from the discussion. One speaker, for example, completely lost himself in talking about planning. I hope this sort of thing will not be repeated.

We are at a disadvantage this year in discussing the river valley projects, because we have been given out-of-date reports. There is, for example, the fifth report of the Estimates Committee. Laudable and commendable as it was when it was published, much has happened since its publication which makes it completely out of date and

inaccurate for purposes of discussion on the floor of this House. Similarly, in the Budget Estimates supplied to us regarding the D.V.C., we have a memorandum which seeks to explain some of the items which call for explanation. This memorandum was prepared seven months ago and much has happened since then, with the result that if we have to base our arguments on the literature before us, we shall find that we sometimes talk beside the point.

It is fortunate that we here take a little interest in the expending aspect of our duties. The D.V.C., if I remember aright, had been the main target of abuse and ill-informed criticism in the past. Previously the picture was one of a combination of the North and the South to slash the D.V.C. I find that somehow or other that picture has now changed. Time was when we used to be told that the Bhakra Nangal and the Hirakud Projects were to serve as models for the rest of the country. What has happened now to Hirakud? What has happened to Bhakra-Nangal? Why are they not now placed before us as models? (*Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava*: They are models.) How is it that in some of the Conferences it is the D.V.C. that is held up as the model? I mention this only to warn my friends to be rather chary in making criticisms. These are enormous projects. I am not here to defend them absolutely. I do not for one moment suggest that there has been no corruption or wastage, but, taking the overall picture, I can say that our men are doing their best. We should trust the men we have put there. If they are going wrong, let us put them right. (*Interruption*) I see my hon. friend Shri B. Das, the father of the House, wanting to say something. He was one who was in the Standing Committee and he was going all out against the D.V.C. But what is his position today? Today, he says that the Hirakud is a tale of enormous mispent crores of rupees and wants us to prevent that. The same sort of thing has happened with regard to Bhakra-Nangal. Previously, it was a question of "Why don't you get Indians?" Indians, Indians, Indians preferably Punjabis and Madrasis. We were told, "Do not get frightened by them because they do not wear chappals. They have done wonderful things." That used to be the argument before. Today, we see a different thing. We saw it during the foreign affairs debate. There it was clarified. There was an overwhelming vote in favour of the pro-

position that for some time to come until we have trained our own personnel, we have to depend upon "expert technical personnel" from abroad. And, Sir, it is not going to be cheap. The sooner we in this country get rid of this idea of cheapness in big projects the better it will be for us. In any big project, in anything that we cannot do ourselves, we will have for some time yet to depend upon foreign aid and we will have to pay through the nose, and the less we talk about getting cheap personnel from abroad the better.

Shri Velayudhan: The personnel is cheap. That is the complaint.

Shri Jaipal Singh: If I can find anybody from Mr. Velayudhan's area who can do the work, I would be willing to pay him thrice as much. I shall be only too glad to do so, even if the Southerners want to flood the North in order to earn their existence.

Shri Velayudhan: There are engineers in the South who have gone to America and studied there all about dam work and they are doing dam work and some of them are getting Rs. 15,000 per month. I challenge the hon. Member to disprove me.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am glad to see the enthusiasm of my hon. friend.

Shri Velayudhan: It is not a question of enthusiasm. I am giving you correct facts.

Mr. Chairman: No argument across the Table should be carried on. The hon. Member may proceed.

Shri Jaipal Singh: There has been a great deal of talk about mass enthusiasm. I want to ask my hon. friends as to how many of them have visited any of these projects. I have been to all the three main projects—may I add, at my own expense. My hon. friends here, there and yonder make long speeches about mass enthusiasm. I would like to see them enthused first. Let them visit the sites and see the difficulties of the various projects. I mention this because today I see a tremendous conversion in my young friend Mr. B. R. Bhagat. Only yesterday we were quarrelling, pulling at opposite ends. He was very critical of the D.V.C. I was supporting the D.V.C. We said: come on, one of the Directors of the D.V.C. is here, let us get into the lobby and cross-examine him with regard to some of the rather distressing features of the Fifth Report of the Estimates Committee. We sat there and discussed things. Within half an hour there was a complete change of mind, and today we have not got a better sup-

porter of the D.V.C. than Mr. B. R. Bhagat.

Something similar like that can happen. It is very unfortunate that when a Report like this is distributed to Members of Parliament, which is out of date in regard to the D.V.C., Hirakud, Bhakra-Nangal and everything else—they are not given an opportunity to have a little memorandum to show what has been done since these enquiries were made. I say Members have been pointing to things that have already been done—at least most of them. When I talk I am not supporting everything that these various authorities have been doing, but when I find a learned Member like Dr. Meghnad Saha telling me in regard to the work that has been done in the D.V.C. that some dam that they have made is little better than a pond! Sir, it is difficult to argue with people who talk like that. All I would say is I would invite Dr. Meghnad Saha to come to my own home area. That is where the thing is happening. I have seen these things with my own eyes.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I may refer him to the report of Mr. Voorduin where he discusses the twelve dams, and this Tilaiya dam is the smallest there.

Shri Jaipal Singh: My friend is proving what I have already said. We are out of date. We are miles and miles away from Voorduin's estimate. What Voorduin said is completely out of date. He is somewhere else today. We began, as my friends from West Bengal will recollect, with this question of flood control. That has receded into the background. Flood control has been superseded by this power supply.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has only two minutes more.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Having said this I want to make a few suggestions. But before I go on to make those suggestions I would just like to say this. I would like to remind hon. Members, one welcomes their enthusiasm, their scrutiny of expenditure, their surveys. That is all to the good. But I think it is better to be well informed about things, not to be out of date, and to make up our mind on whom we are going to rely. If my hon. friend Mr. Deshmukh goes to the area and tells me that he is satisfied and that the work is going on satisfactorily, am I going to rely on his word or on the word of somebody else who reads books and has not been to the spot? Our creditors, the Americans are very hard-headed businessmen. I do not know whether any of my hon. friends have had any business-dealings. The

[Shri Jaipal Singh]

Americans are hard-headed businessmen, almost heartless. In giving the money they have seen to it that the money is needed and that the money is not being mis-spent. From time to time representatives of the World Bank, financiers as well as technicians like General Wheeler, have been to the spot to see for themselves whether the money that they have given us as loan is being well spent. And as far as opinion is concerned, expert opinion of outside observers as well as that of our own leaders in this country has been very very favourable on the whole.

*** Chairman: The hon. Member's time is over. Babu Ramnarayan Singh.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सभापति महोदय, अभी मेरे मित्र जयपाल सिंह ने बहुत बड़े उत्साह के साथ यह जो दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन और दूसरी जो रिबर वैली स्कीमों हैं उन का समर्थन किया है। तो उतना उत्साह तो मैं नहीं दिखला सकता हूँ लेकिन यह तो ठीक है कि उनके भाषण में भी कुछ तत्व हैं इस का तो विचार करना ही होगा। और भाइयों ने बहुत बड़ी बड़ी शिकायतें की हैं कि जहाँ जहाँ कार्पोरेशन (Corporation) बना है, बोर्ड (Board) बना है, वहाँ तो गुटबन्दी हो गई है, क्लिक (clique) हो गया है तो उन लोगों को भी मैं यह कह कर के संतोष देना हूँ कि वह तो होगा ही। रामायण में कहीं लिखा है: "जन्म दून्हा तस बना बराता" जैसा दून्हा होगा, वैसी ही बरात बनेगी। तो जब यह सरकार ही गुटबन्दी की है तब इस का बनाई हुई कार्पोरेशन कैसे अच्छी हो सकती है। बात यह है कि काम तो चल रहा है और चलेगा। हमारे एक भाई साहब ने कहा कि इन सब को बन्द कर दो। भाई बन्द तो नहीं करना होगा। अगर बन्द करना होगा तो सरकार को पहले बन्द करो। लेकिन जब तक सरकार चलती है तब तक उस में जो भला काम हो जाय वह तो ले ही लेना चाहिये। जितने काम सरकार के

हो रहे हैं वे प्रसन्नता के लायक तो नहीं हैं लेकिन यह जो रिबर वैली का काम है वह अगर ठीक से होगा तो जरूर उस से लाभ होगा। दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन के बारे में कुछ शिकायत तो हैं लेकिन वह सारी शिकायत सरकार की है लेकिन जो काम हो रहा है उस को स्थगित करके यह तो ठीक नहीं है। एक काम उन्होंने उठाया है, और अन्य कर्माशयल (commercial) काम शुरू कर दिया है, जिस से कि मैं बहुत प्रसन्न हूँ। उन लोगों ने हजारीबाग नगर को पानी देने के लिये केला लिया और इस निमित्त छड़वा नदी का बांध भी उन लोगों ने ठीक कर दिया लेकिन एक बात बिहार सरकार ने अपने हाथ में रख ली है कि पानी पहुँचाने के लिये नली बगैरह वही लोग बिछायेंगे। वह लोग विशेषज्ञ हैं ये लोग ठीक काम कर रहे हैं, काम सीख गये हैं इसलिये इन लोगों के हाथ में ही वह काम रहना कहीं अच्छा था।

सभापति महोदय, एक बात और है जो कि सरकार को याद करना चाहिये और दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन का भी याद करना चाहिये। जिस वक्त दामोदर वैली स्कीम की चर्चा चली थी उस वक्त यह तय हुआ था कि जो लोग अपने अपने घर से हटाये जायेंगे, अपनी जगह जमीन से हटाये जायेंगे उन का घर के बदले घर मिलेगा और जमीन के बदले जमीन मिलेगी। इसी आधार पर काम चला है लेकिन हम कां मुनने में आया है कि जो इस्टीमेट्स कमेटी (Estimates Committee) हैं उन लोगों की अक्ल में यह बात घुसी है कि निर्वासित लोगों को कम्पेन्सेशन (Compensation) दे दें, कुछ रुपया दे दें।

श्री ए० सी० गुहा : इस्टीमेट्स कमेटी ने ऐसा तो नहीं कहा।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : लेकिन ऐसी कोई चर्चा है और यह खबर मुझे लगी है। अगर यह नहीं है तो बड़ी खुशी की बात है और इसी वारंते में कहता हूँ कि यह तो बिल्कुल पक्की बात होनी चाहिये कि जितने लोगों का अपने घर और जमीन से हटना पड़ेगा उन को घर के बदले घर मिले और जमीन के बदले जमीन। मैं कहता हूँ कि दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन को और उस की मालिक सरकार को मकान के बदले मकान देना होगा। नहीं देने से शायद दूसरी भी कार्यवाही हो सकती है। दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन अपने ढंग से मकान बनाता है यह बात ठीक नहीं है। मकान बनाना चाहिये मकान वालों की मर्जी के मुताबिक और जिन को रहना है उन के टेस्ट (taste) के मुताबिक। यह नहीं कि जिस तरह से यह लोग चाहें मकान बना दें और दे दें। यह ठीक नहीं होगा।

इस के साथ साथ सभापति महादय, एक बात और है। मैं कहता हूँ कि जमीन के बदले में जमीन देनी पड़ेगी और यह नहीं कि लोगों को डिस्प्लेस कर दें और दूसरी जगह उन को बसावें नहीं। इस के साथ एक बात यह भी है कि वह इलाका जंगली है और बड़ी कठिनाता के साथ जमीन बनाई जा सकती है। दामोदर वैली कार्पोरेशन के पास ट्रैक्टर हैं और दूसरे बहुत से साधन हैं जिन के जरिये जमीन बनाई जा सकती है।

तो इस के लिये भी कार्पोरेशन को यह काम करना चाहिये कि वह जमीन तैयार कर के लोगों को जमीन दे दे। इस के बारे में यह कहा जाता है कि इस पर बहुत खर्च होगा। चाहे इस पर ६०० रुपये या ६ हजार रुपये एकड़ खर्च हो, उस की कोई बात नहीं है। जमीन वहाँ पर बननी है और इस की

बहुत सस्त खरूरत है। जो लोग जमीन से हटाये गये हैं उन लोगों को जमीन अवश्य मिलनी चाहिये। यह मानवता का तकाजा है। इस में रुपये का ख्याल न किया जाना चाहिये। हमारे देशमुख साहब तो मौजूद हैं वह मिनट में नोट छाप देंगे। लेकिन जमीन बन सकती है, जमीन बननी चाहिये और जमीन को बनना होगा और जिन लोगों को जमीन से हटाया गया है उन को जमीन देनी होगी। यह धार्मिक तकाजा है।

इस के बाद जो वहाँ पर दामोदर कार्पोरेशन का काम हो रहा है और जो हो चुका है वह कुछ बढ़ाई के योग भी है। मगर मेरा कहना यह है कि वहाँ पर ठीक तरह से काम होता रहे। लेकिन अभी हमारे मित्र जयपाल सिंह ने कहा है कि हम को अमेरिका से टैकनिशियन्स लेने होंगे। इस पर बहुत खर्च करना होगा। मैं आप से कहता हूँ कि क्या हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों में बुद्धि नहीं है। क्या अमेरिका के इन लोगों ने शुरू शुरू में ही सब तरह के रिबर वैली का काम सीख लिया था। वहाँ के लोगों ने भी अपना काम खुद किया होगा तो क्यों नहीं यहाँ के ही आदिमियों से ये सब काम कराये जाते हैं ?

यहाँ पर कहा गया है कि भाखरा डैम के लिये अमेरिका से एक एक्सपर्ट (expert) को बुलाया गया है और हमारी सरकार उन को १० हजार रुपये माहवार वेतन दे रही है। इस के साथ ही साथ उस को और तरह की सहूलियत भी दी जा रही है। उस को किसी प्रकार का इन्कम टैक्स (income tax) नहीं देना होगा और भारत सरकार उस के आराम की सब तरह की चीजें मुहय्या करेगी। इस का सतलब यह हुआ कि उस व्यक्ति पर भारत सरकार १० हजार रुपये से भी ज्यादा खर्चा करेगी जब तक वह भारतवर्ष में रहेगा। उस की

[बाबू रामनारायण सिंह]

तनख्वाह इतनी हो गई जितनी कि हमारे देश के राष्ट्रपति को भी नहीं मिलती, यहां तक कि अमेरिका के जो राष्ट्रपति हैं उन को भी इतनी तनख्वाह नहीं मिलती, यह बात आप अच्छी तरह से जान लें। इस के साथ ही साथ एक विशेष बात यह है कि इन के साथ हमारी सरकार का जो कंट्रैक्ट (contract) हुआ है वह एक साल के लिये नहीं, दो साल के लिये नहीं, बल्कि १० वर्ष के लिये हुआ है। मैं सरकार से कहता हूँ कि इस तरह से आप हमारा रुपया पानी की तरह क्यों बहा रहे हैं। आज हमारी सरकार सब जगह इसी तरह से पानी की तरह हमारा रुपया बहा रही है। सभापति जी, इतना तो हो सकता था कि हमारी सरकार ने जो एक्सपर्ट बुलाया है उस को वह अपने यहां ६ महीने या साल भर तक रखती और इस असें में वह हमारे यहां के ढाढ़ मेयों को अपनी राय और सलाह दे जाते। मगर हमारी सरकार ने तो उनको १० वर्ष के लिये रख लिया है। हम लोगों में इस तरह की गन्दी जहानियत है कि बाहर की मदद के हम अपना काम नहीं कर सकते। इस तरह के खर्चों को हमारी सरकार कर रही है और बाहर से आदमी बुला रही है, उस का समर्थन हमारे जयपाल सिंह जी ने किया है।

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एक बात कह कर मैं बैठ जाऊंगा। मैं जानता हूँ कि समय कम है। हमारी सरकार के जिस तरह से काम हो रहे हैं वह सब जानते हैं। उस के सब काम गड़बड़ चल रहे हैं। मैं यहां पर एक विशेष बात की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। वह है कोसी बांध का बनाया जाना। वहां पर हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी भी दौरा कर आये हैं। शायद हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी को इस बारे में पता चला या नहीं चला कि वहां पर जो

काम हो रहा है वह बहुत ढिलाई से हो रहा है। यह तो सब को ही मालूम होगा कि इस नदी में जब बाढ़ आती है वह इतनी बरबादी कर जाती है जितनी कि दुनिया की और कोई नदी नहीं करती है। बाढ़ की वजह से सरकार को बाढ़ पीड़ितों की सहायता के लिये हर साल काफ़ी रुपया खर्च करना पड़ता है तो यह मालूम हुआ कि वहां पर काम ढिलाई के साथ हो रहा है। लेकिन यह तो एक दिन पूरा होगा ही। मगर मेरा कहना है कि इस काम को बराबर जोरों के साथ चलाना चाहिये। जिस से कि इस में कोई काम का हर्ज न हो। इस काम के लिये रुपये की कमी की परवाह नहीं करनी चाहिये। रुपया तो किसी न किसी तरह से मिल ही जायेगा। अब तो अमेरिका हमारा चेला हो गया, गुरू हो गया, दाता हो गया। यह बात ठीक है कि वह हम को रुपया दे ही रहा है तो फिर काम में किसी प्रकार की ढिलाई क्यों आने दी जाय।

सभापति महोदय, यहां यह भी कहा गया है कि जहां जहां पर काम हो रहा है वहां पर जब बाहर के लोग जाते हैं तो वहां के लोग उन का स्वागत नहीं करते हैं। इस तरह से उन लोगों को अपने काम में उत्साह नहीं मिलता है। सभापति महोदय, इस देश का अब तक यह दुर्भाग्य रहा है कि सरकार एक चीज़ है और जनता दूसरी चीज़ है। दोनों में कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है। तो इस तरह की सरकार का कौन स्वागत करेगा। यह बात आप जान लीजिये। मैं कहता हूँ कि जो लोग बाहर से वहां पर काम करने के लिये गये हैं अगर वह ठीक तरह से काम करें, देश के हित के लिये काम करें, जनता के हित के लिये काम करें और अपने को जनता का सेवक समझें तो उन का अवश्य स्वागत होगा अगर वे लोग सरकार को

तरह मालिक बन कर रहना चाहेंगे तो यह चीज बरदास्त नहीं हो सकती है। यह बात सब को मालूम हो जानी चाहिये। अगर उन लोगों की इसी तरह की भावना रही तो उन का कभी स्वागत नहीं किया जायेगा। अगर वह सेवक की भावना से और देश के लाभ की भावना से काम करेंगे तो अवश्य उन का एक बार नहीं, बार बार स्वागत किया जायेगा। यदि मालिक बनने की भावना से उन्होंने काम लिया तो कभी भी उन का स्वागत नहीं किया जायेगा।

(English translation of the above speech).

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Sir, my hon. friend Shri Jaipal Singh, has just now supported the Damodar Valley Corporation and other River Valley schemes enthusiastically. Personally I cannot show that much enthusiasm but what he has said undoubtedly makes sense and we would have to take that into consideration. Other hon. Members have complained that wherever Boards or corporations have been set up, cliques have sprung up. Let me console them by saying that this is inevitable. Ramayana contains a saying, namely, "Jasa dulaha tesa hau barata" i.e. the marriage party models itself on the bridegroom. When there are cliques in the Government, how can a corporation set by it be free from them? The fact is that such things are there and will go on. An hon. friend suggested that all these (corporations etc.) should be scrapped. But that would not do. If you want to scrap them start by scrapping the Government. So long as the Government last we should get as much good out of it as possible. There is nothing to be happy about the things this Government does, but if the River Valley Schemes are put into operation properly they would certainly benefit our country. There are certain shortcomings in the Damodar Valley Corporation but then, they are the shortcomings of the Government. It does not mean that work should be stopped. I am very pleased that the Corporation has also taken up a commercial venture and that is of supply water to Hazaribagh city. The corporation has repaired the dam on the Chadwa river. But the Bihar Government have reserved the right of laying of pipes etc. It would have been much better if this work had also been entrusted to the corporation, which is an expert body.

Sir, I would request the Government and the Damodar Valley Corporation to bear in mind that when the Damodar Valley Scheme was being considered, it was decided that people who would have to be removed from their homes or lands would be given alternate houses and lands. That was the original decision but now I have heard that the Estimates Committee had a brain wave that such people should be compensated monetarily.

Shri A. C. Guha (Santipur): The Estimates Committee never said so.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: But there was something of that nature in the air. I should be glad if this is not true. But we should be definite that those people, who would have to be removed from their houses or lands, would be given houses and lands. I would rather say that the corporation and its master, the Government, will have to do this. If they do not, other ways can be adopted. It is not proper for the corporation to build houses according to its own taste. Houses should be built according to the wishes and tastes of those who have to live in them. The corporation should not build houses as it pleases.

Sir, I would point out one more thing in this connection. People who have to surrender their lands for the construction work of the scheme should be given lands in return and they should not be made displaced persons. There should be arrangements for resettling them. That is a jungle infested area, which takes a lot of labour to clear. The corporation has got tractors and other means which can be used for clearing land. The corporation should clear that land and then give it to the people. It is said, that the land-clearing operations would cost very much. I think it should not matter whether clearing costs Rs. 600 per acre or Rs. 6,000 per acre. Giving lands to people whose lands have been used in the construction work of the scheme is a dire necessity and the land has to be cleared. Humanitarianism demands that monetary considerations should not stand in its way. Our hon. friend Shri Deshmukh can very easily get currency notes printed. Whatever the circumstances it is our duty to give some land to the people who have had to surrender their lands and land can be made available after clearing the jungles.

Praise is also due to the corporation for what it has done and what it is doing. I want that its work should proceed smoothly. Our hon. friend Shri

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh]

Jaipal Singh has just now pointed out that we would have to engage American technicians. This would cost us much. I ask: are the Indians devoid of skill and did Americans learn the work of such river valley schemes at the very outset? They also learnt it gradually by themselves, why not employ Indians only for that purpose?

It has been stated that an expert has been called from America to work on the Bhakra Dam. He is being paid an income-tax free salary of Rs. 10,000 per mensem. In addition, the Government would provide him with all sorts of facilities and comforts. That means that the Government of India would spend more than Rs. 10,000 per mensem on that gentleman, as long as he is in India. Let us make a note of the fact that his salary is more than what our President or even the American President for that matter receives. This expert has been employed on a contract basis not for one year but for a full decade. I would like to know why our Government is spending such enormous sums of money. Sir, the Government could have utilised the services of the expert for a period of six months or a year during which he would have advised our men on the spot and there would have been no wastage of money. But the Government have employed him for a ten year period. We have developed such a rotten mentality that we cannot do without foreign help. Shri Jaipal Singh has supported such an expenditure by the Government and has stood for calling foreigners to help us.

As the time at my disposal is short, I would make one more point and finish. All are aware how our Government bungles everywhere. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the construction of a dam on the Kosi river. The Prime Minister toured that area and I cannot say whether he came to know that the work there is proceeding very sluggishly. All know that whenever there are floods in Kosi they bring destruction, without any parallel in the world. The Government have to spend big sums on providing relief to people of flood-stricken areas. The work of the scheme though going on at a snail's pace, has to be completed one day but why should not the tempo of the work be raised, so that there may not be any loss of work. Lack of money should not stand in its way. We would get money through some means or the other. Now that U.S.A. has become our friend, philosopher and guide they would give us money. Why then should the work proceed sluggishly?

Sir, it has been stated here that if outsiders go to the places where development work is proceeding they are not accorded any welcome, and that they are not encouraged. Sir, unfortunately Government and the people have since long been two separate entities in this country. Both are not properly related. I ask you: who would welcome such a Government? I say that if the outsiders participating in the development work at a particular place work properly for the interests of the country and the people at large, and consider themselves to be servants of the people, they would be welcomed. But they would not be tolerated in the capacity of overlords. We should know this that if the attitude of these people continues to be that of overlords they would never be welcome. If they work as servants of the people and have the good of the country at heart, they would be welcomed every time, but not if they act as overlords.

श्री एस० एन० बास : सभापति जी, इस बैठक के अन्त में मुझे कुछ कहने का मौका मिला, इस के लिये मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ ।

अभी इस सभा में इरीगेशन (Irrigation) और पावर मिनिस्ट्री (Power Ministry) के बारे में बहस करते हुये इस मिनिस्ट्री की नीति, योजना, शासन प्रबन्ध प्रायः हर दृष्टि से बहुत कड़ी समालोचना की गई है । मैं समझता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान जैसे देश में जहाँ पर प्रकृति ने भूमि, और जल के प्रचुर साधन दिये हैं वहाँ की जनता अन्न के बिना, शरीबी में और बेकारी में पड़ी रहे, तो यह दुनिया के सात आश्चर्य के अलावा एक आठवाँ आश्चर्य होगा । इस देश में स्वतन्त्रता प्राप्त होने के बाद जो परिस्थिति पैदा हुई, राष्ट्रीय और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय, जो विपत्तियाँ देश के सामने आईं, देश के विभाजन से पैदा हुईं अनेकों समस्यायें आईं और देश ने इन सब विपत्तियों का जिस तरह से सामना किया वह इस देश के इतिहास में हमेशा गौरवमय रहेगा । इन सब एकठिनार्यों के होते

हुए भी हमारी सरकार ने जिस तरह से कई मल्टीपरपज प्रोजेक्टों (multipurpose projects) को जारी किया और अनेकों मल्टीपरपज प्रोजेक्टों के बारे में जांच पड़ताल शुरू कराई, वह दुनिया में एक अभूतपूर्व घटना है।

सारी कठिनाइयों के रहते हुये, आर्थिक अभावों के रहते हुए फिर भी सरकार ने चार बड़ी नदियों के नियंत्रण करने का काम अपने हाथ में ले लिया है और इस के साथ ही साथ बहुत सी स्कीमों की जांच पड़ताल शुरू कर दी है जिस से देश को आगे लाभ पहुंचेगा। मैं सरकार को इस तरह के कामों के लिये बधाई और धन्यवाद जनता की ओर से देना चाहता हूँ। यह सही बात है कि आरम्भ में किसी भी काम के करने में कठिनाइयाँ और त्रुटियाँ होती ही हैं। इसी तरह से हमारी सरकार के सामने भी कुछ अभावों के कारण जिन में आर्थिक अभाव मुख्य है, विशेषज्ञों का अभाव है, टेकनिशियनों (technicians) का अभाव है, तमाम तरह के अनुसंधान और रिसर्च (research) के अभाव हैं, और अन्य अभावों के होते हुए भी सरकार अपने काम में आगे बढ़ती ही चली जा रही है। इन सब बातों को मद्दे नजर रखते हुए और सरकार के सामने जितनी कठिनाइयाँ हैं उन को देखते हुए यह सरकार हमारे बधाई और धन्यवाद की पात्र है। जिस तरह से यह विभाग अभी तक काम करते हुए चला आ रहा है उस से देखने में यह आता है कि कभी यह विभाग किसी मिनिस्ट्री के अन्तर्गत चला जाता है और कभी किसी मिनिस्ट्री के अन्तर्गत चला जाता है। इस का कारण मुझे यह मालूम होता है कि जिस तरह से यह अभी नया काम है और जिस उच्च योग्यता की जरूरत है उस को सामने रखते हुए अभी तक इस विभाग की स्थायित्व नहीं दिया जा सका

है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर इस काम को संवेच समझ कर और विचारपूर्वक किया गया होता तो इतने विभागों और इतने अधिकारियों के हाथों में इस विभाग को न जाना पड़ता। हमारे माननीय सदस्य जो पिछले माननीय मंत्री रह चुके हैं उन्होंने कहा ये योजनायें उन की सन्तान हैं। मैं नहीं समझता कि यह किस की सन्तान कही जाय। यह सन्तान इस गोदी से उस गोदी में और उस गोदी से इस गोदी में जाती रही है और मेरा ख्याल है कि इस कारण से इसके कामों में बहुत कठिनाई पड़ती रही है और जैसा नियंत्रण, जैसा शासन प्रबन्ध, जैसी देखभाल और जैसा सुप्रबन्ध होना चाहिये वैसा सुप्रबन्ध नहीं हो सका।

अब मैं एक विषय पर आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिस पर कि हमारी ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी (Estimates Committee) ने विचार किया है और जिस पर उस ने कटौती करने की अपनी सिफारिशों की हैं। मैं इस से सहमत नहीं हूँ और वह है रिसर्च (research) के सम्बन्ध में। पूना में रिसर्च स्टेशन जो कार्य नदियों के नियंत्रण के सम्बन्ध में, जल के नियंत्रण के सम्बन्ध में, कर रहा है मैं समझता हूँ कि भविष्य के लिये वह बहुत जबरदस्त चीज है। अगर हम अनुसन्धान करने में, विशेषज्ञ पैदा करने में, लोगों को ट्रेनिंग देने में कमी करेंगे तो देश में विस्तृत जल-प्रणाली को भविष्य में नियन्त्रित कर के खेती के विकास और औद्योगीकरण का जो महान् कार्य हम करना चाहते हैं वह कार्य नहीं हो सकेगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि केवल विदेशी विशेषज्ञों और उन के रिसर्च पर भरोसा रख हम इस कार्य को अच्छी तरह नहीं कर सकते। इसलिये मैं इस सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि वह अनुसन्धान के कार्य में बहुत दिलचस्पी ले और जहाँ

[श्री एस० एन० दास]

तक हो सके ज्यादा से ज्यादा रुपया उस के लिये रखे ।

मैं एक और सुझाव पेश करना चाहता हूँ । जब कभी आर्थिक कठिनाई पेश होती है तो हमारे अर्थ मंत्री इस बात की कोशिश करते हैं कि अर्थ की कमी की वजह से कहां कमी की जाय तो सब से पहले उन की नजर ऐसे कामों की ओर जाती है जिस से रुक जाने से तात्कालिक नुकसान देखने में नहीं आता । उन पर उन का तुरन्त हाथ चला जाता है । मैं अपने अर्थ मंत्री से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे अनुसंधान के कामों के लिये, ऐसे रिसर्च के कामों के लिये, ऐसे ट्रेनिंग के कामों के लिये वह एक खास फंड बना दें और खास समय में जब कि देश की हालत अच्छी रहती है और कोई आर्थिक कठिनाई नहीं रहती है वैसे समय में एक अच्छी रकम उस के लिये रख दे जिस से कि रिसर्च का काम बिना किसी बाधा के और बिना किसी रुकावट के चलाया जा सके । यदि इस प्रकार की नीति से हम काम करेंगे तो जो अनुसंधान का काम है और जिस की हम को इतनी ज़रूरत है और आगे ज़रूरत होगी—वह अच्छी तरह आगे बढ़ सकेगा ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे अंग्रेजी राज्य के काल से बराबर यह चला आता है कि जो शासन प्रबन्ध में सेक्रेटरी (Secretary) हैं या मिनिस्टर हैं या दूसरी दूसरी जगह जो लोग शासन के काम में रहते हैं उन की सुविधा के लिये हमारा पहला प्रबन्ध होता है । लेकिन जो लोग नीचे बैठ कर हमारी नजरों के सामने आये बिना विज्ञानशाला में, अनुसंधान शाला में, काम करते हैं उन की सुविधा के लिये, उन के सुख के लिये हमारा प्रबन्ध

कम होता है । जब हम अपने देश में बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं को लेने जा रहे हैं तो ऐसे समय में रिसर्च स्कालर (research scholars) ज्यादा से ज्यादा समय अपने काम में दे सकें इस के लिये हमें प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये । अच्छे से अच्छे दिमाग वाले, अच्छी से अच्छी बुद्धि वाले इन कामों की ओर झुकें हमें इस का प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये । यह काम तभी हो सकता है जब कि रिसर्च का काम करते समय उन के सामने आर्थिक कठिनाइयां न आवें । इसलिये इस के लिये ज़रूरी है कि उन को वेतन की और पद आदि की दूसरी सुविधायें देने की कोशिश की जाय ।

तीसरी बात मैं आप के सामने यह रखना चाहता हूँ । बहुत सी बातों के लिये कहा जाता है कि यह प्रान्त की बातें हैं । यद्यपि अभी इस समय इस सभा में बहुत कम सदस्य उपस्थित हैं तब भी मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि कोसी नदी की समस्या एक प्रान्त की समस्या ही नहीं है, केवल बिहार की ही समस्या नहीं है । कोसी नदी की समस्या को यदि बिहार की समस्या समझ कर इसमें देरी की जायेगी तो मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि संसद् के सदस्यों के नाते जितने सदस्य यहां उपस्थित हैं उन को इस के सम्बन्ध में शीघ्र जानकारी हासिल करनी चाहिये । यह कोसी की समस्या सिर्फ बिहार की समस्या ही नहीं है कोसी की समस्या सिर्फ बाढ़ रोकने की समस्या नहीं है, कोसी की समस्या सिर्फ फसल को बरबाद करने की समस्या ही नहीं है, यह कोसी की समस्या केवल नौवी-गेशन (Navigation) के प्रबन्ध की समस्या ही नहीं है बल्कि यह कोसी की समस्या एक मानव समस्या है जिस को हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार को, हिन्दुस्तान की जनता को और इस संसद् के सदस्यों को

जल्द से जल्द हल करना चाहिये। आप वहाँ की दशा का अनुमान हमारे व्याख्यान से नहीं कर सकते हैं। अगर हमारे माननीय सदस्यों को कष्ट न हो तो ऐसे मौकों पर उन को वहाँ जाने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये कि जिस समय बीस मील के अन्दर एक बहता हुआ सागर वहाँ नज़र आता है और गाँवों गाँवों के लोग जमीन पर न रह कर जल के ऊपर लकड़ी के मदान बना कर वहाँ रहते हैं और लगातार महीनों तक उसी दशा में पड़े रहते हैं।

इसलिये घंटी बजने के समय मैं अपने माननीय अर्थ मंत्री से कहना चाहूँगा कि कोसी नदी की योजना की जांच की जो रिपोर्ट सामने आई थी और जिसको कई भागों में बांट दिया गया था और जो सब से पहला भाग था वह यह था कि विद्युत शक्ति पैदा की जाय यह बेकार चीज है। जैसा कि एडवाइजरी कमेटी (Advisory Committee) ने कहा है कि सब से पहले कोसी नदी में बाढ़ का नियंत्रण और उस के द्वारा सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस कमेटी ने बल्का बांध के लिये सिफारिश की है उस को जल्द से जल्द हाथ में लिया जाय। मेरे ख्याल में योजना के अन्दर इसे प्रथम स्थान मिलना चाहिये। और यह इसलिये नहीं कि वहाँ सिंचाई से अन्न की उपज बढ़ेगी, इसलिये भी नहीं कि वहाँ विद्युत शक्ति पैदा होगी तो गृह उद्योग चलाये जायेंगे, बल्कि इसलिये कि वहाँ जो हजारों आदमी अकाल ही में मृत्यु के गाल में चले जाते हैं उन्हें बचाया जाय। लाखों जो बीमारी के शिकार होते हैं उन्हें राहत पहुंचायी जाय। इसलिये मैं अन्त में फिर अनुरोध करूँगा कि कोसी योजना केवल बिहार की योजना नहीं है,

यह सारे भारत की योजना है। यह केवल सिंचाई की योजना नहीं है बल्कि यह मनुष्य जाति के एक बड़े हिस्से को मृत्यु के मुख में जाने से बचाने का सवाल है। इसलिये इस की सब से प्रथम स्थान मिलना चाहिये।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central):
I feel grateful to you for this opportunity given to me to say a few words at the end of today's meeting.

In the discussion that has followed in regard to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, the policy, the scheme and administration of that Ministry has come in for severe criticism. To me if the people of a country like India, where nature has been so lavish in respect of land and water resources, are suffering from poverty and unemployment just because of want of food, it is the most astounding thing ever known. The way this country has faced the complex post-independence situation, the national and international calamities and the problems arising out of Partition, will ever be memorable and rightly a source of pride for us. It is really an astonishing achievement of the Government to start so many multipurpose projects and undertake survey-work in connection with so many others despite all these difficulties.

Notwithstanding all these difficulties and insufficient financial resources, the Government have undertaken to control four of our big rivers and survey work has already been started on many other projects and schemes from which the country will benefit immensely in times to come. On behalf of the people of my country I thank and congratulate the Government for undertaking such projects. It is true that initial difficulties and shortcomings always accompany any undertaking. Our Government likewise is faced with the shortage of many necessary things of which the financial resources form the main item. They have not got the necessary expert personnel, technicians and research facilities. Yet, despite all these handicaps, the Government continue to make an all-round progress in their work. Viewed in the light of this progress and the many hurdles in their way, the Government deserve our congratulations and thanks.

[Shri S. N. Das]

Looking to the past record of the working of this Ministry, one finds that at different times it was attached to different Ministries. It appears to me that the work entrusted to this Ministry is comparatively a new one and keeping in view the very high standard of efficiency that is required to conduct its activities, the Ministry could not have been given a permanent shape. I feel that had a proper consideration been given, it would not have been necessary for the Ministry to pass through so many hands.

The hon. Member who has held this portfolio in the last Cabinet, claims these plans as his own. I am unable to say as to whom they belong, but one thing is clear, namely, that these have been changing hands too frequently and that is perhaps the reason why so many difficulties have cropped up and proper control, administration, supervision and management have been non-existent in the working of this Ministry.

Now I want to draw your attention to a matter which has already been considered by the Estimates Committee and regarding which they have recommended a cut in the expenditure. Personally, I am not in accord with it. The recommendation concerns the research work. The work that is being done by the Poona Research Station in connection with the control of rivers will be of much importance in the days to come. Any relaxation on our part just now in the matter of research-work, expert personnel requirements and training, will mean that the great task of controlling our vast water-resources with the future object of their utilization in the development of our agriculture and industrialisation will never be accomplished. I feel we cannot depend on foreign experts and their research for a satisfactory completion of this great undertaking. I, therefore, want the Government to interest themselves more and more in the research work and set apart for this purpose as large funds as possible.

I wish to offer one more suggestion. Whenever a need for economy is felt, things which first engage the hon. Finance Minister's attention for cut in expenditure are those, which when suspended, are not likely to result in any immediate loss or, at least, they are apparently so. Thus such things are the first victims of any steps towards economy. I insist that the hon. Minister should set up

a special fund for research and training purposes and set apart sufficient money for the same when the times are prosperous for the country and there are no economic difficulties facing it so that the research-work could be carried on without any hitches and handicaps. Adoption of that policy will result in considerable progress in the research work which is so badly needed just at present and the need for which will be greater and greater in times to come.

Another matter which I want to bring to your notice is that whereas many facilities are provided to high officials like Secretaries and the Ministers, very little is done for the subordinate staff who toil hard in laboratories and research institutes without gaining any eminence in the public eye. Now that we are embarking on big projects in this country, we should see that the research scholars devote the maximum possible time to their work and to that end we should give them all facilities. In order to attract the best talent in the country to this type of work, we should provide them all facilities. This task can be accomplished only when those engaged in it are care-free so far as their financial position is concerned. It is, therefore, desirable that they should be offered good terms in regard to salary and rank.

Another suggestion I want to make is that in respect of many matters, it is said that they are provincial matters. Just now the attendance in the House is very thin. Still I may say that the Kosi Project is not a provincial project. It does not concern Bihar alone. If the delay in its completion is due to any misunderstanding just because of this impression, then I would request the hon. Members to gather the correct information at the earliest. It is not a project concerning Bihar alone. It is not aimed at controlling the floods or designed to save the crops. Nor is it being constructed to have navigational benefits. It is essentially connected with a human problem which the Government and people of this country as also the hon. Members of this House must solve at the earliest. You cannot visualise the distressful conditions there just by hearing any speech here. The hon. Members should, if they feel no inconvenience, visit that area in these days when a veritable sea seems to be flowing on a 20 miles wide tract of land and when the people of every village are living not on land but on raised wooden structures with water all

round underneath. And they continue to live in these conditions for months together.

Now that the bell has gone, I want to draw attention of the hon. Minister that the first part of the report of survey regarding Kosi concerning the generation of electricity is a useless one. As has been recommended by the Advisory Committee, first of all Kosi floods should be controlled and its overflowing waters should be used in agriculture. First of all the construction of the Balka barrage should be undertaken and completed as early as possible. It must receive a top-priority in that project. It should not be done because it will help in irrigation and then increase the production of foodgrains nor because we want to generate electricity which will prove so useful in our cottage industries, rather it should be done out of a consideration to save thousands of persons who meet an untimely death and to relieve several lakhs of others who suffer from so many epidemics as a result of the floods. In conclusion, I will plead again that the Kosi Project is in no way a provincial one. It is not exclusively concerning Bihar. It concerns India as a whole. It is neither an irrigation project. It is rather an issue which concerns the safety of thousands of persons. It should be viewed in that light and, as such, given top-priority.

Shri Pocker Saheb: Sir, I beg to move my cut motion No. 431.

Mr. Chairman: The cut motions have already been moved. The hon. Member can speak.

Shri Pocker Saheb: I shall just say a few words on this matter. The purpose of my cut motion is to discuss the lack of progress made in executing the Malampuzha scheme in Malabar, Madras State, and the pressing need of expeditiously executing such schemes in Malabar.

I submit that Malabar has been a very unfortunate part of this country, so far as irrigation schemes are concerned, for decades and decades the people of Malabar have been agitating for the execution of various irrigation schemes. But, the British Government was very busy in getting the schemes framed and all the schemes were shelved. You may remember, Sir, in 1943, famine and epidemics affected Malabar and some 50,000 or 75,000 people died of cholera and for want of food. After all this agitation, one scheme called the Malampuzha scheme was sanctioned and the esti-

mated cost of it was 4.16 crores. That scheme has been put in execution also to some extent and about 2 crores of rupees have already been spent. What has happened now? All of a sudden, in the beginning of this year, it was stopped. The reason given was that the subsidy which was sanctioned by the Central Government had been stopped for the time being. Therefore, the whole work stopped all of a sudden. About 5000 labourers were employed in that work. All of them had to be discharged for the time being. Later on, after a lot of criticism in the press, etc. the work was again resumed. But, only about 1500 workers were employed. Subsequently, the number was again reduced to 800. Now, only 800 labourers are working. The scheme is practically at a standstill; the work is being slowed down all on the ground that the Centre has not given the necessary funds.

This is a sanctioned scheme and the Centre is legally and morally bound to furnish the funds, and if the Centre refuses to furnish any further funds at the proper time, it will be responsible for all the consequences. I submit that it is very unfair on the part of the Central Government to refuse the funds in a matter like this when the scheme is partly worked. Buildings have been constructed and certain canals have been dug, and if the working of the scheme is slowed down, the result will be that shortly all these also will disappear. The heavy rain which is beginning now will cause great damage to the work that has already been done.

There was a superstition that Malabar being blessed with two monsoons and there being plenty of rain, irrigation schemes were not necessary. It was because of this superstition that Malabar was not given the benefit of any irrigation scheme, though there were ever so many schemes framed and shelved. No doubt, Malabar is favoured by nature in one sense by the existence of two monsoons. But it is not suitable for the raising of crops. When rain is required, there is no rain and there is difficulty. When rain is not required, there will be rain and the seeds sown will be washed away. This has been our experience. It is to save Malabar from these calamities to a certain extent, that this Malampuzha scheme was passed and put into execution. This scheme will irrigate a very large area, and it will bring about 40,000 acres of land un-

[Shri Pocker Saheb]

der cultivation, and produce about 20,000 tons of paddy when it is fully executed. According to the original plan, the scheme should be expected to be completed by 1953, but now, from the behaviour of the Government in slowing down, it will not be over even by 1955 or 1956. In the meanwhile, the slowing down process will also destroy such part of the work as has already been done. This kind of callous indifference to this part of Madras State is really of a very culpable nature, and I submit that the Central Government having sanctioned the scheme, having made the Madras Government undertake the execution of the scheme, and Rs. 2 crores having already been spent, it is quite wrong on the part of the Centre to refuse this monetary help and make the scheme unworkable. This is all that I have to say.

Shri Ramaseshaiah: rose—

Mr. Chairman: He has got only seven or eight minutes to speak.

Shri Ramaseshaiah: I will speak within the time, Sir.

I rise to speak about my cut motion regarding the Damodar Valley Project. This has been referred to by many hon. Members. This project seems to be ill-designed and badly begun. The defect in the scheme arose like this. It was originally designed as a scheme of flood control which naturally led to irrigation also. Flood and irrigation go together and it was quite natural that the authorities who had to control the flood by constructing bunds across the streams wanted to divert the water for purposes of irrigation. But when they thought of bunding up the rivers, the idea of converting the scheme into a hydro-electric scheme seems to have dawned upon them. This hydro-electric scheme has therefore come as a corollary to the flood control and irrigation schemes and it was included in the major scheme. But in the course of investigation it was discovered that the Damodar river and its tributaries could supply maximum water only for three months in the year for the hydro-electric scheme. That is, their supply of water for the maximum production of power under the scheme would be only for three months in the year, i.e., July to September. Therefore, they had to think of an alternative source of supply for the remaining 9 months. Government in the usual course

should have given up the hydro-electric scheme and satisfied themselves with the flood control and irrigation, but in their enthusiasm, they seem to have thought of keeping this hydro-electric scheme also in the bigger scheme. To supplement the hydro-electric scheme, they provided for a thermal station. When the autonomous body of Damodar Valley Corporation were entrusted with the execution of this scheme, they started with the erection of the thermal station first. Naturally, this ought to have come last, but they thought it wise to start it first. They have progressed to a great extent. They seem to have already spent about Rs. 7 or 8 crores on this scheme. I learn it is almost nearing completion.

Now, I do not want to condemn this thermal station, but I have a positive suggestion to make. From the Estimates Committee Report, it looks that this thermal station has, on its own merits, some very commendable features about it. I shall just refer to a paragraph:

"The Bokaro thermal station has swallowed practically all the available finance. Such a power generating station, constructed on its own merits, and even without combining it with the Damodar Valley irrigation and flood control scheme has much to commend it. It would have earned its way and could have supplied cheap electricity. Its financial return alone has to save the Corporation as a whole in what may be termed as the 'short run'."

Sir, this would naturally leave us with the impression that this thermal station is more important and more useful than the hydro-electric scheme. Luckily, the hydro-electric scheme has not yet been started. The thermal station is already reaching completion and it has a capacity to produce 200,000 K.W. My proposition under the circumstances is this: Whether it is worthwhile to pursue the hydro-electric scheme when we have a thermal station which can produce 200,000 K.W. which is more dependable and also which can supply electricity very cheap. I only wanted to refer to this and suggest to the hon. Minister, that the scheme may be revised. Future work on the Damodar Valley Project may be confined only to the flood control and irrigation portions of the scheme. If this is done, we will save a lot of time, and the

Government will save a huge sums of money. I am sure the project can then be completed in one or 1½ years. Otherwise, along with the hydro-electric project, it will take four or five years, and also the cost of the scheme may go beyond Rs. 100 crores. It may even go beyond Rs. 120 crores. I therefore suggest that the hydro-electric portion of the scheme may be dropped and only the flood control and irrigation and navigation portions of the scheme may be taken up and completed soon.

Some hon. Member was referring to the Krishna Pennar project. Where is another better scheme on the Krishna River which is gaining currency as Nandikonda Project? Kistna River, hon. Members will be interested to know, is the third biggest river in India. It is eight times as big as the Damodar River, and I am suggesting the construction of a dam at Nandikonda where the entire river passes between two rocks, over a rocky bed. This is an ideal place for the construction of a dam of any height. Providence, in her bounty, seems to have anticipated our Food Problem and provided a natural site for a mighty River Valley Scheme. On account of this rocky bed and also on account of the river passing through two rocks, the construction of the dam would be cheap, easy and also very quick, and I learn that when the whole scheme is completed, it would ultimately supply water to 10 million acres of land. The Southern canal can be taken up to Madras for about 300 miles on a contour, irrigating the fields and giving navigational facili-

ties all the way and finally also supply drinking water to the city of Madras. With so many possibilities, with such potentialities, I request that the Government may think of this scheme along with the other river valley projects.

श्री गणपति राम : सभापति जी अगर आपकी इजाजत हो तो मैं यू० पी० के मिर्जापुर जिले में जो रेहान्ड डैम बनाने की स्कीम थी जो कि फाइव ईयर प्लान में रक्खी गई थी। उसकी तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिससे पूर्वी जिलों में.....

[Shri Ganpati Ram (Jaunpur Dist.—East—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I would like to draw your attention to the scheme that was provided for in the Five Year Plan for the construction of Rihand dam in Mirzapur district of U.P., for the eastern districts.....]

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member can discuss it on the day of the debate on planning if he gets a chance. So far as the discussion of this subject is concerned, I think it is closed except for the reply of the hon. Minister in charge on 2nd July.

The House then adjourned to a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Monday the 23rd June, 1952.