

Shri Tyagi: That has gone into the proceedings.

15 hrs.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I think my hon. friend has forgotten the position. I think he is becoming more or less an interpreter of the rules of this House. I think it is very clear that I am entitled to have my name recorded.

Shri Tyagi: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His name has been recorded, and his opinion has been recorded, namely that he is opposing it. The point is whether he wants division now. I have declared that the 'Ayes' have it.

Shri Jaipal Singh: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The 'Ayes' have it, the 'Ayes' have it

The motion was adopted.

— — —

16.01 hrs.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT
—contd.

BREAKDOWN OF WATER SUPPLY IN DELHI

Shri Goray: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the House do now adjourn".

16.01 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

एक मिनट, य सबस्य : पाच घंटे हो गये
सदस्यों को पानी नहीं मिला है ।

Shri Goray: I am grateful to you for admitting this motion of adjournment. Sir, how acute the position is regarding the supply of water to this metropolitan city of Delhi can be imagined from the fact that Members of this Lok Sabha have not been able to have even a glass of water in this House up to this minute.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): That is complete mismanagement.

Shri Goray: We were told in this House that....

Mr. Speaker: There is no water available here?

Shri Nath Pai: No water even now.

Shri Goray: . . . water will be made available in this House, but not a drop has been coming since then, and still it is only in the realm of promise. . .

Mr. Speaker: I will make arrangements immediately.

Shri Goray: . . .and so far, no action has been taken.

It is not only because the Members of Parliament have been deprived of water that I am raising this question but because a million people in this city have been victims of this inefficiency and lack of imagination on the part of the department concerned. I listened very carefully to the statement made before this House by the Minister, Shri Karmarkar. He said 'I would like to take into confidence the Members of House', but I found that he did not take us into confidence at all. What he told us was a rehash of what everyone of us had read in the morning papers.

He said that it was not possible for his department or his engineers to give sufficient water because the Jamuna was behaving in a very unpredictable manner. I think this city of Delhi has been on the banks of the Jamuna for quite a long time, and this vagrancy of the Jamuna is not new. She must have been behaving like that for centuries. I think we are not living in the age of Mohenjodaro where a civilisation was completely overwhelmed perhaps by the floods. We have the modern techniques; we have the modern know-how. In *Bhagirath*, we are told every day that our engineers are second to none, and

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we are constructing wonders of engineering skill not only here but in Bhakra-Nangal and in so many other places. When you are building a city of this magnitude, when you are trying to make Delhi into one of the biggest cities in the world, one of the most attractive cities in the world, I think it is commonsense that you should at the same time think of sufficient supply of water to a city like this.

So far as this city is concerned, I find that a month back, we were told that the city was a victim of floods; and down the Parliament street, we were seeing a deluge of water. So many houses were flooded, and even the newly constructed buildings of our secretariat had so much of water in them that files and documents were destroyed, and they had to be put out in the sun for drying. The whole telephone system went out of order. The drainage system went out of order. Electricity failed. Now, after fifteen days, we are told that the supply of water has failed. What is happening to this city? One day, we may be told that because of the floods in the Jamuna, not only the electricity and telephone systems have failed but even the Government system has failed and the whole Government has been washed down in the floods of the Jamuna.

Shri Khushwaq Rai (Kheri): That would be better.

Shri Goray: I am raising this question on the floor of the House because I want that people who are responsible, even the Minister who is responsible for running this Ministry should bear in mind that there is a limit to which people can be played with. There is a limit to which people's patience can put up with this sort of inefficiency. What will happen to the people in Delhi if supply of water fails for another six hours? It has been impossible for housewives to cook. There is no water in our places. We

had no notice, and we had not stored water. And I do not know what I shall do when I go back home. Therefore, this is a situation which should be remedied immediately.

The Minister said that he had sent his Deputy Secretary to see what had happened. I do not know what these Deputy Secretaries are. Really when the convenience of the millions of people is involved, I thought it was a case where the Minister himself ought to have taken interest; but he thinks it is not a very big matter at all, and the Deputy Secretary is enough to cope with the situation. That shows that there is not only inefficiency in the Government but there is callousness in the Government, and that is what I want to attack with all the force at my command.

All sorts of reasons have been trotted out in order to save the prestige of the Health Ministry. I would only like to point out that a similar situation had arisen two years back; a committee was appointed, and that was asked to find out the reasons why there was such a large-scale pollution of water, and suggest what should be done to prevent it in the future. That committee submitted a report. Now, two years have passed, and precious little has been done so far to implement the report. We were told by the Minister that they have been trying to build a wall, a protective wall, and that has been completed. But I do not know why he should be satisfied only with that. Why was it not possible to complete the whole programme that was given by the expert committee? That committee said that there should be an anicut or a weir, so that there would be enough water to be supplied to the city of Delhi. That has not been completed as yet. I wonder if it has been started at all.

Now, building a bund or building a weir is not such a difficult task that only one engineering firm could do it. If it was beyond the power of

one engineering firm or one contractors' firm to do it, we could have employed two or three firms. The question was one of urgency; the question was of supplying water to millions of people. I say that this question ought to have been treated as a question of the prestige of this city.

Here, there are embassies from all corners of the world. What would they think of this Government if they are deprived of water? Are we going to tell them, 'Well, you have to wait for twenty-four or thirty-six hours.'? And if there is not going to be any water, what opinion will they form of the efficiency of our Government?

So, I would like to stress this point that this must be immediately gone into, and something drastic must be done to bring the people who are responsible for this state of affairs, to book.

At that time, Sir, the Committee had pointed out three things, and they said that these should be immediately put into operation. Not only that; they suggested that to put these things into practice, to complete this programme, if necessary, there should be an expert committee to supervise this work. I do not know whether that has been done.

The three programmes or projects that they suggested were as follows. The first was that the Najafgarh Nulla should be so trained that it would not be possible in the future for the dirt in the Nulla to mix with Jamuna water. To a certain extent, this scheme has been completed, but it is not fool-proof. As soon as there are floods, as the Minister said, it becomes impossible to prevent this sewage water from mixing with the Jamuna water. And Jamuna is going to give us floods every year. That much we know. Therefore, it means that it was a very urgent work and it ought to have been completed earlier, that is, before the floods occurred this year.

The second project related to the construction of an anicut so that it will cross the river and make it possible to store water. That has not been done, so far as I know.

The third very important suggestion was—and the Committee had made this suggestion in very specific terms—that for a growing city of the magnitude and importance of Delhi, another source of supply, independent of the Jamuna river, was imperative. They said, 'Do not put all the eggs in one basket'. These are their words. They advised us that we should not have all the eggs in one basket, which obviously means 'Do not depend on Jamuna alone'. There must be an alternative source. Not only did they say that there should be an alternative source of supply, but they went out of their way to point out where that source is. They said that ten miles from Delhi, there is the Hindon river. It is a perennial river. They said that it flows into the Agra Canal, and if that water could be utilised, there will be no dearth of water so far as Delhi is concerned.

They also said—at that time there was some difficulty raised by some people saying that there is going to be a bridge and there is going to be a rail track and therefore, it would not be possible to bring that water through pipes—that the difficulty about pipelines does not now remain. Therefore, it should be possible to have pipelines with a diameter of 48 inches so that we could have a constant flow of water in Delhi from the Hindon river. They have said there is already some sort of a 'cut' in the river through which the water flows. They have indicated that the quantity of the water is 1200 cusecs and all that water goes into the Agra Canal.

Therefore, I think, that when a committee of experts recommended these things two years back and the Minister comes here and tells us today that the work is progressing, some of it has been completed and

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some still remains to be completed, this matter was not taken up with the urgency which it required. That is why we find ourselves in this mess.

Now, I know that whatever he does, the hon. Minister cannot conjure water from anywhere. It is not possible. Things which ought to have been done have not been done. I only want to say this: let this be a sufficient lesson. I think this Government suffers from complacency.

Just now, we heard about the situation in Assam. We hear about so many things. We allow things to drift.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi: West-Reserved-Sch. Tribes). They allow, not we.

Shri Goray: Then we try to hurry up and do something—which we can never do. We must catch time by the forelock, because we want to build up this city so as to become the pride of the nation. Even a tyro in engineering would expect that the Government had given more thought to the supply of water which is the first essential of a city. Whether it is drainage or whether it is water supply, it depends on ample supply of water.

I do not know why there are no tube-wells here. We are told that the water level in this city is so high that under six feet or eight feet, we get ample water. As a standby, why should we not think of tube-wells? That water may not be very pure, but it will be a standby, something on which we can fall back, when there is not sufficient supply, we can take it as an alternative source of supply.

Therefore, I want to place before this House this warning that unless we did something very drastic, unless we considered this issue as a very important issue, it would not be

possible for us to solve it, and most probably next year or within the next two months, we shall be faced with the same situation again which is not at all a good thing.

Sir, I thought that the Minister of Health would look at this matter rather seriously. Within a span of two years there are two scandals—one of impure water giving rise to jaundice and all sort of things, and new complete failure of water supply. I think this is enough for any Ministry to make it sit up and take note of. I do not say that the Minister should resign, but I would have welcomed even this gesture... (Interruptions).

Shri Jaipal Singh: He is a Maharashtrian.

Shri Goray: Do not raise the question of Maharashtra here. I want the debate to be on a high level.

I was saying that even resignation from the Minister would have been welcome because I think the officers will not be impressed properly unless they think that the Minister himself is serious about these things.

The House is very serious about it, Sir, and I want that even the Members of the Congress Party and Members of the Cabinet should be one with us on this issue. They should tell the officers that we are very serious about these things and 'though we have pardoned you so long, in future, do not expect this leniency from us'.

I press this adjournment motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the House do now adjourn"

The time-limit for speeches will be 15 minutes.

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura): It will be much better if we all go for Shramdan and the Minister goes to Jamuna site.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I have pointed out in the morning certain things. I do not want to elaborate those points which have already been explained. The question now is: how soon can we get water? Another important question is: when we get water, how much less will be the contamination?

Going through the Report of the Jaundice Inquiry Committee, I find there has been a controversy on this point. When the Committee took evidence, one Shri Mehta said that his consideration was not to get water soon but when he got water how contaminated it was, and he wanted to stop it. I do not go into the whole Report. But I want to point out certain things because even if we get water, even if it is delayed, according to this report, there is certainly danger of contamination also when we get water.

I do not touch on the first point which has been explained here already, the necessity of ensuring water supply in this great city. Not only that, but I will also point out the abnormality of life in this great city. Unfortunately, because of jaundice, so many thousands of people suffered and so many also died. Only recently there had been a flood, and when there was flood for some days the connection between Old Delhi and New Delhi was disturbed and people could not go from one place to another. I got reports that when there was flood, there was dislocation of the telephones and even today in some places they have not been restored. The question is people are not getting water. I understand that in some places where they do not get water they are taking water which is used for watering plants and there is danger of contamination.

Why is it that Government have not gone into the recommendations of this Committee. We appointed a committee when there was jaundice, we took up the question in Parliament. We said that it was a serious

thing and it should not happen again. And so the Committee was appointed. If the Government had seriously taken the report they should have implemented the suggestions given in the report. We have great projects like the Bhakra-Nangal and others. But how is it that serious notice was not taken of the suggestions given by the Jaundice Enquiry Committee for an alternative supply of water? The report was given two years ago and they have given us a warning that we should not depend on the Jamuna waters as there will always be a receding back of the waters and that we should have an alternative supply of water. They had given two or three schemes by which alternative supply of water could be had.

Before I go into that question I want to say this. The Minister said that on the 15th evening they came to know what was happening. Even when on the 15th the Minister and the authorities knew that something would happen and there would be a breakdown of water supply, how is it that even for one hour there was breakdown of water supply? How is it that they did not give any warning to the people so that they could store water? That is the most important thing. It has been admitted and there is no going back now on that. Why is it that when they knew on the 15th that there was likely to be a breakdown in water supply they did not caution the people or find out a tubewell or something from where they could get water? It is because they did not care about the difficulties of the people. When there is no warning given to the people and there is a sudden breakdown in the supply of water, they will not be able to store water even for drinking purposes. There are other purposes for which there will be no water at all. Even if there is no food for one or two days, one can take a cup of water. Today till now there is no water and there are people who did not know that they would not have any water. It is certainly a case of gross negligence and callousness to human life.

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As far as the Committee is concerned, they have given two suggestions, one a long-term one and the other a temporary measure. The committee has noted that unless there is a temporary measure till the permanent one is completed, there will be this casualty. Every year when there is flood, there will be receding back of the waters and there will be difficulty. They say, here is a permanent remedy and till that is completed there is a temporary measure so that when there is a breakdown people may not suffer.

In this report they have devoted a long chapter to the contamination of water. They have said that when there is a breakdown and when there is a receding of water there would certainly be contamination and so you must be prepared. When there is a breakdown you must get water sooner and there must be no contamination also. That was a point which was discussed very much in this House. I do not want to go into that because there is no time.

They say:

"Towards the end of October the Water Works engineer got an idea that the river was perhaps receding more towards the other bank during that year than in the past. This view was confirmed on the 3rd of November...."

"On the 9th November the situation was getting worse as the river was apparently more rapidly receding towards the other bank and the quantity of water at the point of intake was getting less and less."

The report has said that not only will there be no water but when there is receding of water and when there is breakdown, when we get water there is also the danger of contamination.

I have already read out the terms of reference of this Committee in the morning. Two or three of the terms are:

"The shortcomings of any in the organization, management of the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board and of the drinking water arrangements...."

"Major difficulties and defects that exist at present in the water supply and sewerage system and the steps to be taken to remove them."

They have given the shortcomings of the existing system and they have said two or three. I do not want to go into that because I have no time. They have suggested remedies also. They say:

"The tendency of the river to recede towards the other bank (opposite to the intake) after every flood necessitates, on some occasions, sucking of river water from the downstream of the intake, to maintain adequate supply to the city. It is on such occasions that the supply drawn by the pumps may get polluted by the sewage brought down to the river by the Najafgarh Nulla."

"The flow in the river in the latter part of the hot weather is not adequate to meet the growing demands of the city and temporary arrangements are being made for the past three years to augment the supply with the help of canal water. This indicates the urgent necessity of securing an alternative permanent source of supply."

Here they have shown that because this is happening every year this indicates the urgent necessity for securing a permanent alternative supply so that when there is any breakdown there may not be any complaint in regard to water supply as well as

about contamination. They have suggested remedies and I do not want to go into all the remedies. They have suggested a temporary remedy before the permanent remedies are completed. As the hon. Minister pointed out it will take time, I want to know why they have not taken steps.

Is it because there are no engineers or is it because there is no money? According to the Report only Rs 14 or Rs. 15 lakhs are necessary. Why is it that the temporary remedy suggested by the committee was not taken into consideration? We want to know what were the difficulties in the way of the temporary arrangements they have already mentioned.

The next point is this. In this alternative supply of water they have also pointed out the urgent necessity of getting this done very soon. That has also not been done.

Why was this committee appointed? Because there was the great danger of jaundice that was there. When a committee was appointed and when it gave a report on the very important question of water supply and contamination also, why did not Government give it top priority and see that in future there is no break in water supply. It is not only our people Delhi is an international city where foreigners and others come. They find that for one or two days, there is no water and all the people are suffering. Why is it that the Government has not been able to remedy the situation?

On the 15th of August, it was known that there would be a breakdown. It was known to the authorities concerned. I quoted in the morning the *Times of India* saying that the engineer has said that they expected that there would be something but they could not do anything. Why is it that they could not do anything? That report in that paper says that if there had been some tube-

wells here and there and if there had been some pumps, people would have been able to get some water. That was not done. If no steps were taken after a very good report has been given by a Committee, the whole responsibility is on the Government and it is due to the callousness on the part of the Government in not caring for the life of the people. The report categorically says that some alternative arrangements must be made. It says do not depend upon nature alone because the Jamuna may be receding. What has been done? Permanent arrangements had to be made but till that time, temporary arrangements should be made. If you do not do that, there will be a breakdown in the supply of water and there will be contamination also. Even now there is no water. Even if it becomes available, there is the question of contamination. We should take serious notice of these things and so I support this motion.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, I am not speaking on this question at this stage but perhaps the House would be interested in the latest information which we have received. The hon. Shri Gopalan put a question about it as to when the supply can be resumed, etc. The work of cutting the channel has been going on since this morning and the latest expectation is, the message says, that we may be able to give 2-3 hours supply this evening—it was announced in the radio—from 5 to 7, and may be more. It may be possible to keep on the supply a little longer than two hours. We hope by tomorrow morning the position will be restored, more or less, to normalcy.

As for the other part of Mr. Gopalan's question, that is, about contamination of water, there is nothing in this message but it is certainly advisable not to take any risks about it till we are quite sure and therefore, it has been said that for drinking purposes, water should be boiled.

बी राधा रजहः प्रायश्च नहोदध, वें आपका आवेगन प्राभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस पानी की समस्या पर जो कि दिल्ली में इस वक्त मौजूद हैं, बोलने का मौका दिया है और जो स्थिति आज पैदा हो गई है उस पर भी अपने विचार रखना ।

यह पानी का मसला इस दिल्ली शहर में बहुत घर्से से जना आ रहा है और बार बार इस सभा के अन्दर भी यह प्रश्न आता रहा है और इसको हल करने की आवश्यकता पर भी जोर दिया जाता रहा है । यह भी कहा जाता रहा है कि दिल्ली में लोगों को पानी पयपित मात्रा में उपलब्ध नहीं होता है । हमें देखना यह है कि जहाँ आज हम इस प्रश्न पर वाद-विवाद कर रहे हैं वहाँ किन कारणों से और बाबजूद इसके कि सरकार ने बार बार हमें यकीन दिलाये है कि चबराते की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है और हम भी उन यकीनों को सामने रख कर आगे चलते हैं, यह मसला पूरी तरह से हल होने में क्यों नहीं आया है ।

इसके पहले कि मैं विरोधी दल के वक्ता श्री गोरे जी ने जो कुछ कहा है उसके विषय में अपने विचार प्रकट करूँ, दो बार बात कह देना मुनासिब समझता हूँ ताकि दिल्ली में पानी की जो स्थिति इस वक्त है वह स्पष्ट हो जाए ।

अगर आप जो सरकारी रिपोर्टें और वक्तव्य सम-प्रमय पर दिये गये हैं उनको सामने रने लो अापको ऐसा लगेगा कि सन १९५१-५० में दिल्ली में जो पानी का आवश्यकता था वह १६ मिलियन गलन थी और बढ़ते बढ़ते सन् १९५६-५७ में यह ५६ मिलियन के करीब आ चुकी है और आजकल यह करीब करीब ६० या ६२ मिलियन गलन तक पहुंच चुकी है ।

इस वक्त दिल्ली में जो वाटर एंड स्पूएज बोर्ड काम कर रहा है और जिसकी नियुक्ति सरकार ने कुछ घर्से पहले की थी और जो आवश्यक दिल्ली कारपोरेशन के अधीन है, उसके वीयरमें एक विरोधी दल के सदस्य हैं जिनका नाम भी भारतीय है और जो जन संघ से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं । जहाँ हम सरकार की आलोचना करते हैं या सरकार में पानी की सप्लाय चासू रखने में जो कोताही की है उसकी चर्चा करते हैं वहाँ हमें यह भी देखना है कि जो हमारे मान-प्राप्तियल नेता होते हैं, वीर-सरकारी नेता होते हैं आया वे भी अपना कर्तव्य भली-भाँति कर रहे हैं या नहीं कर रहे हैं । जो स्थिति आज पैदा हो गई है और जिस गम्भीर रूप में वह पैदा हो गई है, उसमें मैं समझता हूँ कि कुछ परमात्मा की तरफ से चेतावनी भी है कि जब कभी भी हम ऐसी नियुक्तियाँ किया करें तो कुछ संवेच विचार कर किया करे । विरोधी दल के लोग बातें बहुत करते हैं लेकिन जब समय आता है तो बिल्कुल फेल हो जाते हैं ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि वाटर और स्पूएज बोर्ड जो इस वक्त बना हुआ है उसके सामने दो बाधाये रहती हैं । एक बाधा तो यह कि उसका जो काम चलता है व नो-प्राफिट नो-लास बेसिस पर चलता है और इस बेसिस पर चलने से जो पानी की समस्या है वह हल नहीं हो सकती है । साथ ही सरकार की ओर से उसको कोई सबसिडी नहीं मिलती है और लगातार वह सबाल सरकार के सामने रखा जाता रहा है कि पानी की समस्या को नो-प्राफिट नो-लास बेसिस पर हल करना कठिन है । दूसरी चीज यह है कि वाटर एंड स्पूएज बोर्ड जो इस वक्त पानी की समस्या को हल करने में लगा हुआ है उसके सामने जब सब स्तरीय भारतीय

हैं और वह उन स्वीयों की सरकार के सामने रखता है तो उनमें जो रकम इनचालू होती है वह बहुत अधिक होती है और उन रकमों को उसको लोन के तौर पर दिया जाता है जिन पर भी इंटरैस्ट लिया जाता है। तो जिस एजेंसी को यह कार्य करना है अगर आप उसके हाथ पांव बांध देते हैं और साथ ही आप यह चाहते हैं कि वह इस समस्या को वार-बेसिस पर या लडाई के दौरान में जिस तेजी के साथ काम होता है उस तेजी के साथ हल करे तो यह कठिन मालूम देता है। तो इन दोनों कठिनाइयों की और मैं इस सदन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि दिल्ली में पानी की समस्या हल हो तो पहले इन रुकावटों को आपको औरन ही दूर कर देना चाहिये। जहाँ तक बाटर सप्लाय का ताल्लुक है दिल्ली के बाटर एंड स्यूएज बोर्ड के हाथ पांव आपको नहीं बांधनों चाहिये और उसको जितना भी रुपया चाहिये उसको नो-प्राफिट नो-लास पर नहीं देना चाहिये बल्कि जितना भी रुपया उसको देना चाहिये बल्कि जितना भी रुपया उसको चाहिये सरकार उसको दे। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि वह एजेंसी जो इस समस्या को इस बकत हल करने में लगी हुई है वही इसको करे तो आपको इन दोनों बातों पर विचार करना होगा और जब तक इन दोनों चीजों को आप नहीं हटायेगे, तब तक मैं समझता हूँ कि जितनी बात आप बाटर एंड स्यूएज बोर्ड से मागतें हैं या उसके सामने रखते हैं वे पूरे तौर पर तथा उसनी तेज गति से तय नहीं हो सकती हैं जितनी तेज गति से कि आप चाहते हैं वे तय हों या जितनी रफ्तार से आप उनको करवाना चाहते हैं।

आज सुबह हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बात को कहा कि इस दफा यमुना बहुत तेजी से रिस्वीड कर गई तथा एक किनारे से दूसरे किनारे बगी गई और इस की सम्भावना उनको नहीं थी। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से तथा इस सदन से धन्य करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप रिपोर्टें

जोकि आपके पास सन् १९५५ से अब तक आती रही हैं उनको गौर से देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि किसी भी साल की कोई रिपोर्टें ऐसा नहीं है जिसमें यह न कहा गया हो कि यमुना का पानी हर साल इस बकत रिस्वीड करता है और एक बैंक से दूसरे बैंक की तरफ जा कर लग जाता है। यह कोई नई बात इस साल या इस बार नहीं हुई है। ऐसी यह बात नहीं है जिसका सरकारी अफसरान को या वाटर एंड स्यूएज बोर्ड के अफसरान जोकि यह काम करते हैं पता न हो। अगर आप १९५५-५६ की रिपोर्टें को देखेंगे तो उसमें इस चीज को साफ तौर से लिखा हुआ है कि :—

The river condition during the year was not at all satisfactory. The river had altogether changed its course towards the other bank....

इसके आगे चल कर यह लिखा हुआ है :—

With the help of military engineers....

इससे मेरा ताल्लुक नहीं है? इसी तरह से अगर आप १९५६-५७ की रिपोर्टें को देखें तो यही बात उसमें भी आपको मिलेगी। इन दोनों रिपोर्टों में कहा गया है कि यमुना अपना कोर्स रिस्वीड करती है और उस बकत दिक्कत पैदा होती है और बनाना चाहिये जिससे कि पानी उस रास्ते लाया जा सके और पानी की सप्लाय में रुकावट में हो। जब यह चीज आपके सामने पिछले तीन चार साल बराबर आ रही है तो कोई बजह नजर नहीं आती है कि बकत से पहले इस पर ध्यान न दिया जाए और इस पर गौर न किया जाए। आपको इस सम्भावना पर विचार कर लेना चाहिये वा कि अगर यमुना रिस्वीड करेगी तो उस बकत पानी की क्या हासल होगी। शहर के अन्दर अफरा तफरी मची

[श्री राधा रमण]

है। लोक-सभा के मैम्बर साहिबान नार्थ एबेन्सू और साउथ एबेन्सू में रहते हैं और पुरानी दिल्ली के मुकामिले यहां पानी हमेशा ज्यादा आता है और चौबीस घंटे आता रहता है और ज्यादा साफ और सुधरा आता है। मैं आपका ध्यान पुरानी दिल्ली की ओर दिलाना चाहूंगा जहां पर पानी की इतनी विककत महसूस की जाती है कि कुछ ठिकाना ही नहीं। आज लोक-सभा के मैम्बर साहिबान को आठ-दस घंटे पानी न मिलने से इतनी घबराहट और तकलीफ हो रही है (Interruption)

एक माननीय सदस्य व्यासे मर रहे हैं।

श. राध रमण मैं आपका ध्यान उस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ जहाँ की जनता जिस कि तादाद १०-१२ लाख के करीब है.

श. स० म० बनर्जी (कानपुर) आप सारी जनता के उकेंडार नहीं है।

श. राध रमण मैं मानता हूँ
(Interruption)

Mr. Speaker: In a short time all of us will have sufficient water et us not quarrel over this matter Shri Radha Raman belongs to Delhi proper

Shri Nath Pai: Delhi is ours as much as his; we have as much interest as he

श. राध रमण मुझे इस बात का पूरा एहसास है क्योंकि मैं भी उनमें से एक हूँ कि जिन्हें आज सबेरे से पानी नहीं मिला और जिस ने खाना भी नहीं खाया है। लेकिन दूसरे भी लोग हैं जिन की भी यही हालत हो रही है।

जब आपको आज यहाँ बैठकर पानी के बारे में इतनी तकलीफ, इतनी बेचैनी और परेशानी और दिक्कत है तब मैं आपका ध्यान पुरानी दिल्ली के रहने वालों की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ और मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि आप गम्भीरता से सोचें और जो मैंने पहले आपसे कहा कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि दिल्ली में पानी की समस्या हल हो तो आपको उन सुझावों पर जो मैंने अभी दिये हैं वाटर एंड स्पूएज बोर्ड के सम्बन्ध में गम्भीरता पूर्वक विचार करना होगा। आपको उस बोर्ड को खुली छुट्टी देनी होगी। आप यह बंधन लगाते हैं कि

Shri Goray: Sir, are we standing in the way of his doing that? He should tell them

Mr. Speaker: That is his manner of talking He looks to one side He finds interest in this side.

श. राधा रमण मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि, अध्यक्ष महोदय, कि यह हाउस कम्पिटेंट है और सरकार भी मैं समझता हूँ कि सब कुछ कर सकती है और उसे करना चाहिये। मैं उन चाजों की तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिनकी तरफ आपका ध्यान जाना लाजिमी है। जब आप इस मसले पर गौर करते हैं तो आपको दोनों तरफ की बातों पर विचार करना पड़ेगा और तब इस मसले का हल निकालना पड़ेगा। सन् १९५५-५६ और १९५६-५७ की रिपोर्टों में यह बात बार बार कही गई है और रिपोर्ट में एक्सपर्ट्स ने कहा कि है हमारे हाथ बंधे हुए हैं और हमको यह कहा गया है कि हमारा जो काम है वह नो-प्रॉफिट ने-लास बेसिस पर चलना चाहिये। इसको कोई सन्सिडी नहीं दी जानी, और जो रुपया दिया भी जाता है वह लोन के तौर पर दिया जाता है। उस रकम पर ब्याज लिया

आता है, जिसका प्रयास करना भी इस वाटर एंड सीवेज बोर्ड के जिम्मे लक्ष्मिणी है। जो भी हमारे मासवीय सल्लख वहाँ तथारीक फर्मा हैं, में आपके अरिबे उनसे प्रर्ण करना चाहता हूँ कि हमें इस पर गौर करना चाहिये, वही गम्भीरता से हम को गौर करना पड़ेगा, कि अगर हम यह चाहते हैं कि विल्ली की वाटर सल्लाई वार बेसिस पर, चले और हम इस प्रॉब्लेम को साल्व (Solve) कर सकें, तो हमें इस का एलाभ कर देना चाहिये कि हम वाटर सीवेज बोर्ड पर से ऐसी पाबन्धिया लत्म करते हैं, हम उन्हें उतना रुपया दें जितना उनको चाहिये।

तो मैं आप से प्रर्ण कर रहा था कि मंत्री महोदय ने सबसे यह बात कही थी कि यमुना का पानी एक किनारे से दूसरे किनारे चला गया। और वह बहुत तेजी से गया। इतनी तेजी से कि १५ तारीख को वह नोटिस हुआ और १७ तारीख को इतनी दूर चला गया कि कोई चैनल नहीं रही जो कि इनटेक को पानी देती और सारे शहर में पानी आता। मैं मंत्री महोदय से इस मौके पर प्रर्ण करूंगा कि हमें एकस्ट्रा विजिलेंट होने की जरूरत है। सन् १९५५-५६ की एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव रिपोर्ट में, सन् १९५६-५७ की एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव रिपोर्ट में और इस ऑडिस रिपोर्ट में से हमारे विरोधी दल के माननीय सदस्य श्री गोरे और श्री गोपालन साहब ने जो कुछ बताया है, अगर आप इन सब को ध्यान में रखें तो यह बिल्कुल स्पष्ट है कि यह बात मानी गई थी कि पानी रिसीव होता है, चैनल कटती है, हमेशा पानी की तकलीफ होती है और अगर यह तीन चार सालों से महसूस हो रहा है तो कोई न कोई तरीका ऐसा जरूर भरूपार किया जाना चाहिये था कि जो आज हालत दिल्ली की हुई है, और जो कि हमारी जिन्दगी में आज तक कभी देखने में नहीं आई, कि एक तरफ तो यह बात कानों में आई कि सारे शहर में बाढ़ की वजह से पानी भर-भरा और

दूसरी तरफ हम लोग झारे के सारे पानी के मोहताब हो गये भाइन्हा यह न हो। हमारी सरकार को इस तरफ जास तीर पर तबउजह देनी चाहिये।

मे यह भी प्रर्ण करना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक इन कमेटियों के अरिबे जितनी सिफारिशों सरकार के साम आई हैं यह कहना मुश्किल है कि उन पर कितना प्रयत्न हुआ है मैं नहीं कहता कि कोई कदम नहीं उठाये गये ह। नजफगढ़ नाले का जिक्र किया जाता है। उसके लिये ६५ लाख रुपये मजूर किये गये वह नाला करीब करीब तैवार है कुछ थोड़ी सी कसर रहती है, लेकिन मैं तो कहता हूँ इससे पहले उसका तैवार हो जाना चाहिये था क्योंकि उसकी वजह से आज कटेमिनेटिड (Contaminated) वाटर का खतरा हुआ।

श्री ७० इ० नायर (बाहय् दिल्ली) : करीब करीब नहीं पूरा हो गया है, बीयाई हिस्सा भी पूरा नहीं हुआ।

श्री राधा रमण श्री नायर जी जो फरमाते हैं, हो सकता है कि उनको इसकी ज्यादा वाकफियत हो, लेकिन मुझे जो वाकफियत थी उसके अनुसार मैंने बताया कि वह नाला बनना शुरू हुआ, वह नाला लत्म नहीं हुआ, हालांकि होना चाहिये था। उसके लत्म न होने से जो दुःख आया है उसका बयान नहीं किया जा सकता। इसी तरह से आपने एक बार यह फीसला किया कि हिंडन से पानी लाया जाय, बस मील का फासला है और उसके लाने के लिये कुछ तलाश भी हुई, कुछ फीसले भी हुये। लेकिन प्राश्निकार उसमें दिक्कतें आईं। जब वह आई तो उसके बाद वह दिक्कतें

[श्री राधा रंजन]

थी दूर ही पानी चाहिये थी। मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई न कोई स्टैंडबाई प्रोजेक्ट करना बहुत जरूरी था। लेकिन हमारी सरकार ने उन्हें जितने हुए शहर में वे उन्हें बन्द करा दिया, जितने वाटर हाइड्रेंटस थे या हीड पम्प थे उनको बन्द करा दिया, यह कह कर कि इस से पानी कंटेमिनेट होता है और वह लोगो को नहीं दिया जा सकता। लोग उस पानी को सदियों से पीते आये हैं, किसी को कोई परेशानी नहीं हुई। आज माडर्न साइंस के जमाने में चाहिये कि लोगो को अच्छे से अच्छा पानी मिले, स्वच्छ पानी मिले, लेकिन अगर हम उतना स्वच्छ पानी नहीं दे सकते जितना कि उनको चाहिये, तो पानी के पुराने सोल्यूज को भी बन्द नहीं करना चाहिये। इस मोडर्न साइंस के जमाने में जितना पानी लोगो को मिलना चाहिये अगर हम उतना नहीं दे सकते तो उस वक्त तक कम से कम उन कुओं को, जो शहरो में सैकड़ों वर्षों से मौजूद हैं, जिसके पानी से कोई मृत्यु नहीं हुई थी, उनको बन्द करना कोई मुनासिब बात नहीं है। जो हीड पम्प शहर में चारों के अन्दर लग गये थे, जिनके पानी को पीकर हजारो इन्फान्ट जन्दा रह सकते थे, उनको बन्द करके लोगो को मुसीबत में डालना ठीक नहीं है। आज दिल्ली शहर में पानी की विस्कत फैली हुई है, तब भी समझता हूँ कि ऐसा करना और भी मुनासिब बात नहीं है।

इस लिये सरकार को अपनी बड़ती हुई जिम्मेदारी और लोगो की तकलीफ को ध्यान में रख कर कोई न कोई ऐसा कदम उठाना चाहिये जिसके जरिये इस बीमारी का सही इलाज हो सके। हर साल हम इस विषय पर यहाँ चर्चा करें, इन के बारे में सरकार के लिलाफ कोई ऐजमेंट मोशन रक्खा जाय, और यह बात कही जाय कि सरकार उसका इन्तजाम नहीं कर सकती, यह मुनासिब बात नहीं है।

इन सबों के साथ मैं अभी नहीबच के विहायत प्रश्न के साथ चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ कि जो विस्कतें साफ पानी के सप्लाय करने के बारे में सरकार के सामने आती हैं उनको हर कदम पर और इस तरीके से सामने रख कर दूर किया जाये कि वह जल्दी खतम हो और हमेशा के लिये यहाँ के रहने वालों को, इन्-क्यूबिग मेम्बर्स आफ पालियामेंट, यह यकीन दिलाया जाय, यकीन ही नहीं वह बरोसा दिलाया जाय, कि आइन्दा आने वाले जमाने में कभी ऐसा मौका नहीं देखने को नहीं मिलेगा जो आज देखने को मिला है।

श्री ब.ब.शेख (बलरामपुर)। अध्यक्ष महोदय, इससे पहले कि आप किसी दूसरे सदस्य को बोलने के लिये बुलायें, मैं आप का ध्यान श्री राधा रंजन द्वारा मेरी पार्टी पर, भारतीय जन संघ पर लगाये गये आरोप की ओर दिसाना चाहता हूँ। उन्होने अपने भाषण में यह आरोप लगाया है कि वाटर एंड सीबेज बोर्ड के चेयरमैन एक जन संघ के सदस्य हैं, और जो भी जल की कमी पैदा हो गई उस के लिये वह भी जिम्मेदार हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस दाव विवाद में जनसंघ कहां से आ गया? जो कारपोरेशन है उसमें कांग्रेस पार्टी का बहुमत है और इससे बड़ कर जो भी जल की कमी हुई है उस के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार जिम्मेदार है। भारतीय जन संघ का जो नाम इसमें सीखा गया है उसका उनको वापस लेना चाहिये।

एक बात मैं और कहता हूँ। मैं वाटर एंड सीबेज बोर्ड के जो जन संघ के चेयरमैन हैं उन्हें यह आदेश देने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि वह अपना त्याग पत्र दे दें। क्या कांग्रेस पार्टी में इतना साहस है कि वह अपने हेल्थ मिनिस्टर को यह आदेश दे कि वह भी अपना त्याग पत्र दे दें?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I would request the hon. Members to avoid

references to particular parties Water knows no party

Shri Vajpayee: But the reference has been made

Mr. Speaker: It is dissolved in water Dr Sushila Nayar

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi) Mr Speaker, I speak with a heavy heart because I feel that this tragedy has resulted in the suffering of millions of people in the capital. This is an avoidable suffering, it could have been avoided, and it has not been avoided

Several Hon. Members: Louder please

Dr. Sushila Nayar: If the hon Members would be a little more silent, they could hear. I beg to submit that this difficulty caused by the water receding from the bank where the water-works are situated is not a new difficulty. At least I have been aware of it since 1952, and I believe it existed long before 1952. Year after year, thousands of men—the military also at times is requisitioned—go and dig up a channel. Thousands and thousand of rupees are spent every year on this temporary channel to bring the water near the water-works. What is the reason? For one year, it can be an emergency, for two years it can be an emergency. But for ten years and 15 years it should go on in that fashion—that every year they should dig up a temporary channel to bring the water near the water-works and not make a permanent arrangement for that, is ununderstandable.

We are a proud country and we are rightly proud of the engineering skill in this country. It is possible to make a pucca, permanent channel so that the water can flow near the water pumps and there is no need to dig up these temporary channels year after year.

Then, the second point that is necessary to make the flow in the Jamuna

come down is some kind of an arrangement with the UP Government to allow the minimum number of cusecs to flow down the Jamuna throughout the year. That arrangement not been made. We were told when the Delhi State Government was there that the Uttar Pradesh Government does not agree to release the water. I do not think it can be possible if the case is made properly. If the Uttar Pradesh Government could not allow a minimum number of cusecs to flow down the Jamuna to supply drinking water to the people of Delhi, I think there is some misunderstanding, there is some mistake, there is some wrong approach because of which the necessary amount of water does not flow down the Jamuna.

I was told some years ago that there was a scheme to build a dam to hold up all this flood-water near the hilly portion where the Jamuna comes down into the plains. We have made so many dams—Bhakra-Nangal, the Damodar Valley, and the Kosi, and God knows how many for irrigation purposes and for flood control. Is it too much for the Government of India to spend Rs 6 crores or Rs 8 crores or Rs 10 crores to have a dam and to ensure a regular water-supply to the people of Delhi, the capital? Along with that, there would be plenty of water for irrigation purposes for UP and Punjab. I do not know why in spite of these recurrent occurrences of water shortage, that scheme was not revived.

Reference has been made to a suggestion that water might be brought from the Hindon Cut. That scheme also has not been implemented. There are cities in this country where water is brought from 14, 25 or 30 miles. The pipelines are laid. Hindon Cut is not so very far away that it is an impracticable scheme to bring water-supply from there. Here there is plenty of water throughout the year and there is no lack of water-supply. That also could have been done. But nobody has done it.

[Dr. Sushila Nayar]

What we do is, when there is shortage, we all get excited; we requisition thousands of men and thousands of bulldozers from the military and we talk of *shram dan*, this, that and the other and when the emergency has passed, we forget about it. We become complacent and I am sorry to say the Government of India Secretariat just sleeps over these things. (Some Hon. Members: Hear, Hear). There have been representations in this connection from the Delhi State Government to the Government of India. The letters are on the files and these things have been discussed. Yet, there had to be a jaundice epidemic and now this situation in which there is not drop of water to drink and children are crying with parched throats, because there is no water to drink in the city of Delhi.

I am sorry to say it, but it seems to me the reason why there was jaundice epidemic is not simply the receding of Jamuna. Jamuna has receded for years before that. Najafgarh Ghat, which is being blamed by everybody, has been there, I think, for hundreds of years and yet that Najafgarh Ghat did not contaminate our water-supply and did not result in jaundice epidemic. Why should that Najafgarh Ghat become so dangerous now. Sir? I ask the ex-Rehabilitation Minister, who is sitting here, why all those colonies were built on the banks of that Najafgarh Ghat with no sanitation arrangements, and the sewerage of all those new colonies—Tilak Nagar, Ramesh Nagar and God knows what Nagar—was put into the Najafgarh Ghat? They were settled there without any sanitary arrangements, without any sewerage system and all that sewerage was put into the Najafgarh Ghat. That is why the Najafgarh Ghat has become so dangerous today and we make light of the complaint of our *sadhus* and others who have come in deputations that when they go for a dip in the holy Jamuna, they find their body smeared with night soil. That has actually happened and yet

we have not taken note of that. We have just laughed at it. This is the holy Jamuna; this is no laughing matter. We laughed at that and we had to pay a heavy toll in the form of human lives, because sentiments may be respected or not; but, viruses and bacteria are going to do their job when they get into the human system; they did their job and they can do their job again and result in terrible tragedies.

17 hrs.

Why has this situation been allowed to continue for so many years? For the last five years at least, I have been hearing of schemes of a new sewerage system for all these new colonies, just like the Okhla sewage system, to be set up somewhere beyond Tilak Nagar towards Najafgarh, and it has not come into existence. With all humility I beg to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to this fact. Why is there no co-ordination, no proper thinking or proper planning? We do not seem to realise the consequences of our actions? We take up schemes piecemeal. We do not see far enough as to what are going to be the consequences of our actions, each of our schemes. We have a Planning Commission. But, in spite of that a number of schemes today are being taken up where the consequences are such that if they had been thought of beforehand the tragedy could have been prevented. And this tragedy of contamination of the Najafgarh is one of those tragedies which could have been prevented if enough thought had been given to it, enough planning had come into existence at the time of preparation of all these plans and schemes.

For the prevention of contamination, No. 1, is proper flow down the Jamuna, which I have dealt with. For the prevention of contamination of the river, immediate steps are necessary to take away the sewage from the Najafgarh so that Najafgarh will have only storm

water, and if storm water flows to the Jamuna, that is not going to badly affect Jamuna at all.

Then there are scientific methods for dealing with contaminated water. In theory you can take the water from the sewerage station and consider it as pure as the water from any other source. In sentiment it may not be acceptable to one. Now that is the theory which has been advanced, and it was quoted by some of our experts some time ago. I agree that this theory is there. But, at the same time, we forget that we do not only have the bacteria. We have also the worms. We have also the amoebian infection and infection of chlorine. These worms and these infections will continue in the water in spite of the chlorination. And yet even our chlorination, that is not complete in modern scientific world. There are apparatus by which automatically enough chlorination is added into the water. They are called break point chlorination plants. When enough chlorination is there, the beam of light is cut off and with that the flow of chlorine into the water is automatically cut off. We have not introduced that automatic break point chlorination method at Wazirabad the reason being that it will raise the cost. Shri Radha Raman has pointed out the difficulty that the Sewage Board had with regard to cost. But I beg to submit that that difficulty probably, if my understanding is correct, is a thing of the past. In the past the Water and Sewage Board used to prepare this pure water and used to sell it to the municipalities on "No profit; No loss" basis, and the municipalities were not prepared to pay a higher cost. But today when the Water and Sewage Board is a part and parcel of the Corporation I think that difficulty should not be there and if the cost of water, pure water, increases a little, the Corporation should be in a position to bear that loss and, I am sure, the Home Minister will make up whatever is necessary in the form of financial assistance to the Corporation to ensure pure and safe water supply to the people of Delhi.

Then, mention has already been made regarding alternate water supply. To that I would add: there is need for greater storage capacity. In the city of Bombay the storage capacity is sufficient to supply the people for at least two days. In the city of Delhi your storage capacity is for 4-6 hours; nothing more than that. Why so? Sir, this is the capital city and here for years we have been faced with this difficulty. Why have we not increased our storage capacity, when it should have been done?

As for the alternate water supply, it is good that some suggestions were made to bring water from Hindon-Cut. But I think Shri Radha Raman's suggestion that we should keep these wells and tube-wells in a functioning condition so that in case of emergency we may have some water is good. It may not be first-class water. It may need boiling. Even our tap water today needs boiling. But it will be water, which will be available. Even today I know that there are a few wells in the city and there are large queues on those wells. People are going with *garhas*, with buckets and so on and they are bringing water from those wells. So, it will be a good idea to keep these wells and tube-wells in a functioning condition to supply water in cases of emergency.

Who knows if there is some difficulty or if there is some hostility against us? Our pipe lines can be blown up. In any big city that can happen. In that case too, if we have a few of our wells and tube-wells in a functioning condition we will be able to tide over the emergency. God forbid that an emergency should ever arise, but the ordinary type of emergencies at any rate can be taken care of.

Much was said regarding the importance of taking the people into confidence and I do want to say—the hon. Prime Minister very rightly just now mentioned that—that water should be boiled. A moment ago as I came

[Dr Sushila Nayyar]

into the Lok Sabha I found water being served there and I asked them if they had boiled the water. They had not. They did not even think of it. Why? Because the health authorities had not given that notice to the people since the 15th. They should have given it. Just now they are giving it but since the 15th nobody has given a notice that water is in short supply and it should be boiled before drinking. Some of us who know about these things have started doing it on our own initiative, but the common man does not know anything about it.

I feel that there is some need for improving the efficiency of the working of the Water and Sewage Board. It is not merely what Shri Radha Raman said, the financial difficulties that stand in their way. There is plenty of wastage of water in this city of Delhi. I find several taps leaking. Taps are out of order and some of us telephone but for two or three days nobody comes to set these taps right. The common man does not care. So why not have a few men who will go round and see that the taps that are defective are set right immediately? We made these proposals to them about five or seven years ago, yet no action has been taken till today. In the past the difficulty was that nobody knew as to who controlled the Water and Sewage Board, but now fortunately we know that the Corporation controls the Water and Sewage Board. It should be easy to set right some of these shortcomings and inefficiencies.

In this respect I very humbly wish to submit that it is the duty of all of us also to do a little bit of public education and prevent that wastage of water, to turn off the taps wherever taps are found to be running and prevent that indifference and callousness that is there towards the wastage of water. Shri Radha Raman said that something about 60 lakh gallons are used. I wish to submit that

60 million gallons of water are being used in the city of Delhi. The supply of water has increased very considerably than what it used to be, yet everybody knows that the population has increased and it is likely to increase. So, is the Town Planning acting in some way or planning for increasing the water supply. Sewerage etc must also be there. If there is better co-ordination and better efforts, I am sure we can prevent these tragedies for the future. The hon. Minister of Health cannot be held responsible for this. He is not an expert. He has to be guided by his expert advisers. The Secretariat (*Interruption*) cannot be let off so easily, because, the Secretariat gets expert advice and it is by the Secretariat that the expert advice has to be implemented. Very often it goes unheeded. The hon. Minister should look to it that expert advice is treated with better respect than it is done at present.

Shri Khadilkar (Ahmednagar): Mr Speaker you were good enough to admit this motion to discuss the specific issue of the failure of the Central Government which is directly responsible to maintain elementary services in a modern city, in the premier city, in the capital city of India. Unfortunately it seems, an attempt is being made by some Members opposite to whip up the whole atmosphere. Another attempt was made by my hon. friend Shri Feroze Gandhi to pour cold water over the whole debate. I went outside even now. There is no drinking water. I have satisfied myself.

Some Hon. Members: There is aerated water.

Shri Khadilkar: He got it borrowed from somewhere else.

Some Hon. Members: That was hot water.

Shri Khadilkar: Therefore instead of making the usual pleas,—there is

no co-ordination—let the Minister look into the matter. There is no fault of the Minister as such. Nobody is responsible. As the Minister this morning very speciously said, after all, it is the freakish behaviour of Jumna that is responsible for this failure. This speaks for the whole administration. I feel that Jumna is receding so that it should not be polluted by the foul atmosphere that has been created in this capital city by the incompetent handling of every issue, not only this elementary service. I am surprised. The Central Government is supposed to sit in judgment over the actions of the State Governments. If they fail, they are supposed to guide them and take charge of them. The Central Government now and again says, in these municipalities, they are common people, they do not know how to handle municipal affairs and therefore, they are committing mistakes and they are not looking to the ordinary services of urban life like the sewage system, water system and light system. We pass these judgments. But, on this occasion, the whole thing is spot-lighted

I do not want to defer the issue. Somebody said that some Members of Parliament have suffered. We are ready to suffer even ten hours more without water, and we are prepared to consider that issue. The main issue is why the failure has happened when there was a warning two years ago, and a very severe warning. We know thousands of people were affected by the most virulent type of infectious jaundice. It was in an epidemic form and the poorer sections of the people died. No warning was heeded. Some committee was there. Schemes, as usual were made. But, till this morning, it seems from all accounts that the Minister submitted before the House this morning, nothing was done, nothing was acted upon or implemented. Unfortunately, this is happening in Delhi, the capital city and it is the premier city of India. We are inviting foreigners. We want to

attract more tourists. There are foreign embassies here. In such a city, that the Central Government which is responsible should have this failure to their credit or discredit, they should consider it, not in a light-hearted manner, not in a manner as if we are sufferers. I say I was puzzled this morning. Why the Deputy Secretary went there, I could not understand. Why not the whole Cabinet, if not the Minister? He had no time. Every Minister, even for a small ceremony, with all the paraphernalia of publicity and camera-men is always ready. But, when the question of life, this elementary service is there, no Minister cares to look into the matter, going to the spot. This speaks for the whole administration.

I would like to point out on this occasion, look at the cities that are not the capital city of India, like Bombay. In every modern city, there is a reserve water supply, emergency water supply. In Bombay or Poona or other places, I know, at least for a fortnight, a rationing system is introduced and two or three hours water supply is given. Here, now, after eleven years of freedom and expansion of the city, there is no water system adequate to meet the needs of the growing city, expanding city. There is no housing system, and there is no good drainage system. Is it a good thing which speaks well of the Central administration? Does it behave them to pass censorious judgment on the other administrations? Let them think for a moment. This is an occasion when they should ponder and think, and admit that this was a criminal failure on their part, a criminal negligence on the part of the Government in discharging their primary duty so far as the city is concerned. That must be admitted very frankly without entering into small issues, saying that planning is bad, co-ordination is lacking and all these specious arguments that we hear everyday

And there must be an assurance—because from the past failure not

[Shri Khadilkar]

doing anything in two years' time, we feel apprehensive as to what would happen to this city. The Jamuna is receding, that sort of defence or specious plea is given. I know, I have visited the water station near Khadakvasla near Poona. There are eminent world-famous engineers who can train the course of a river in a very short time. Hydraulic engineering has advanced very fast, so far as river courses and other things are concerned. Why use of that has not been made? I do not know.

The whole city has gone thirsty, without baths, without shave, with stink in the hospitals, the poor occupying almost dungeons in the other areas have not had a cup or a glass of drinking water for nearly 18 hours now in some parts of the city, and you come and make a specious plea. Does it speak well of the Government?

As you rightly said this morning, this is an occasion when this House must get an assurance, not simple speeches, not simple explanations that they are going to plan, that they are going to appoint a committee. That will come now, that they will appoint an expert committee and call for a report, and that report will be pigeon-holed somewhere. That sort of explanation is not wanted.

I would make one more plea in this connection. During my residence of 15 months here I have seen that though the new city is well planned, and it is not within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, even here the ordinary amenities which must be provided in a capital city are not provided because, after all, it is a show piece. I have seen how Moscow is kept, how Paris is kept, how London is kept and it is natural therefore that we have in this city, and it is the duty of the Government to provide them not only all services in proper order without fear of a breakdown, but that the Government sees that every citizen of this place, rich or poor, is receiving

proper attention and that all the services that fall within the jurisdiction of the municipality or Corporation are provided, and provided fully. An assurance must be given, and given in a convincing manner. Then alone the admission of this motion has some meaning because I consider it as of historic importance.

I was just reading a book, and I find that during the First Lok Sabha there were only two occasions when adjournment motions were allowed—one during Shri Mavalankar's regime when an adjournment motion was allowed, then under your jurisdiction you allowed once, and in the Second Lok Sabha this is the first occasion. Before the advent of freedom, in the Central Assembly you, Sir, on many occasions were fighting on issues which were allowed on motions for adjournment. But that opportunity was never given to us. Therefore, this occasion, so far as this House is concerned is a historic occasion when instead of talking over the issue, we must search our hearts and come out with a concrete scheme here and now that within a specified period we are going to discharge this and this and this. It is not a Delhi corporation meeting or a meeting to which one or two hon. Members who have the privilege of getting elected from this place try to reduce it, saying 'Oh, we do not get the loan, this scheme was not sanctioned', and so on. That is not the question. It is a question of maintaining a certain standard and a certain dignity so that this capital will stand in comparison with other capitals in the world as a shining example of the capital of a free India where all services of this nature will never break down. So, let there be this assurance to the citizens of Delhi and those who come to this place and all those foreigners who are permanently residing here.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi) I find that many of my hon. friends have covered the points to

which I wished to refer. Therefore, I would not take much of your time.

I fully realise the difficulties in the situation. The water problem of Delhi is a very difficult one. Therefore, I do not wish to minimise the difficulties of our Minister. At the same time, I would like to say that the statement made by the Minister in the morning left me very dissatisfied. It left a sense that he did not realise the urgency of the situation. If, all of a sudden, an emergency comes, then we are all willing to condone anything, any failure on the part of Government. But was this an emergency of that type? We have seen that the water problem of Delhi has been attracting our attention year after year. Only today, I was going through the reports of the Delhi Administration, and I find that for the last few years, every year it has been mentioned therein that the water situation is difficult, these are the difficulties, water is in short supply, and such and such things should be done etc. Every year, it is mentioned, but in spite of that, nothing tangible has been done. I would like to ask the Health Minister what steps he has taken to meet the emergency that always arises every year during the rains? During the rainy season, some trouble or other occurs every year. What steps did he take to meet the situation this year? I can understand that this year the recession of the Jamuna has been greater or quicker than in other years. So, the situation is a little more aggravated. But what steps were taken to meet even the normally bad situation that was expected, and which we have been seeing every year?

Now, what are the problems that face us? This town had a population of five lakhs ten years back. Now, we have a population of 23 lakhs. Every year, I am told, there is an influx of sixty or seventy thousand people. That means that in this city of Delhi we find sprawling big slums. It is not only that we have water difficulty, but if we go round the city

of palaces, we shall find that situated behind the palaces there are huge slums with people living in conditions which are perhaps worse than those of beasts. They have no water, no latrines and no light. We have been crying hoarse that some steps should be taken to stop the influx of people or something should be done to give the slum dwellers certain minimum basic amenities of life, but nothing is done.

Then comes this water break-down. This report to which a reference has been made already by many hon. friends, says that the proper requirement of water for Delhi population is 150 million of gallons per day. The water that we are getting now with the extra or additional increase is 62 million gallons only. Therefore, there is already a gap in the normal requirement of water. And on the top of that, with a break-down like this, the situation gets further aggravated. What are the difficulties? The first is that the water supply itself is short. Dr. Sushila Nayar and other Members who spoke before me have pointed out that schemes after schemes had been adumbrated. Once, we heard that from the Hindon we would get water, then we heard that we were going to get water from a reservoir or a dam which was going to be built higher up in the Jumna. We would like to know what exactly has been done to increase the water supply to Delhi and what steps have been taken in that direction. Every year we hear of this scheme and that scheme. I would like to urge that Government should think of priorities. I should think that the water requirements of Delhi should receive first priority. Instead of building huge palaces, we can divert that money and that energy first in getting adequate water supply.

The second problem is that of the Jamuna course shifting to the other bank so that at the intake there is shortage of water, this also is a permanent trouble. I was reading in the Report that a channel was needed to be dug year to year in order to keep the water inflow at the intake

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

This is not a new problem. Every year we have to dig a channel from the place where the river shifts to the place where the intake wells are. It has to be done. Why was this not done in time? Why were not some steps taken in order to increase the flow at the intake so that this acute problem did not arise?

Then another big problem is of the Najafgarh Nulla—the first problem is shortage of water, the second the shifting course of the Jamuna river and the third the contamination of the Jamuna water. Sushilaji has brought out the facts before the House very clearly. Formerly, this nulla used to be only a storm water drain. But when the colonies were built—I understand and appreciate that they had to be built in an emergency when the refugees had to be housed, so certain shortcomings might be excused—the drain from 16 colonies found their way into this nulla, and no adequate arrangements were made for sanitation or for treating the salvage and sewage before being discharged into the Nulla.

We have heard of all kinds of schemes. Sushilaji has referred to them. We have heard of schemes for sullage and sewage. But we would like to know how far the schemes have advanced. I do not wish to make a very long speech or condemn anybody. Facts condemn. No words of condemnation are necessary. Here is a situation. This is not an emergency, this was not an unexpected situation. This situation has been arising year after year. The problems have been before us and have been discussed every year. Schemes have been placed before us. This is a thing which should have had number one priority.

I would like to know from Government what steps have been taken to meet this situation because unless the influx of population is checked, there will be a real crisis. We had only

jaundice and a few deaths a few years back. But if this situation is allowed to go on, we will have a bigger jaundice and a bigger water crisis.

So I would very much like to impress upon the hon. Minister that he should be a little more alert. He should realise a little more the seriousness of the situation and should give proper priority to this problem.

श्री बाबूदेव: अध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत की राजधानी में, केन्द्रीय सरकार की नज़र के नीचे, दिल्ली के बीस लाख से भी अधिक नागरिक पिछले अठारह घंटे से बिना पानी के तड़प रहे हैं। इससे इस बात का अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि हमारा शासन कितनी दक्षता से काम कर रहा है। मैं इस विवाद में राजनीति का घसीटना नहीं चाहता, क्योंकि जो भी संकट पैदा हो गया उसका सम्मिलित प्रयत्न से मुकाबला किया जाना चाहिये। लेकिन इस सचार्ड में इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता कि जो भी आपत्ति खड़ी हुई है उसके लिये प्रकृति का इतना दोष नहीं दिया जा सकता जितना कि जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों को। यह आपत्ति मनुष्यकृत है। जमुना नदी सदा अपनी धारा बदलती है—सरकार के इन दावों के बावजूद कि नदियों पर नियन्त्रण किया जा रहा है और नदियों को पालतू बनाया जा रहा है। लेकिन यह धारा बदलने का उस का काम केवल इमी साल का नहीं है। पाच छ महीने पहले नदी की धारा बदल गई थी और उस समय मुर्दों को जलाने के लिये पानी नहीं था। आज नदी की धारा फिर बदल गई है और आज जिनको ज़िन्दा रखने के लिये पानी नहीं है। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सारी जिम्मेदारी नदी पर छोड़ने से काम नहीं चलेगा। जब एक के बाद एक वर्ष लगातार नदी की धारा बदल रही है, तो शासन का यह कर्तव्य था कि धारा के बदलने के कारण जो परिस्थिति पैदा होगी, उसके निराकरण के लिये यह समर्थित

कदम उठाता, लेकिन सरकार अपने कर्तव्य का पालन करने में पूरी तरह से असफल सिद्ध हुई है और इस बात की जांच की जानी चाहिये कि इस के लिये कौन उत्तरदायी है। यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि सचिवालय उत्तरदायी है, सचिवालय के कर्मचारी उत्तरदायी हैं। वैज्ञानिक दृष्टि से हमारे स्वास्थ्य मंत्री इस के लिये उत्तरदायी हैं। और उन्हें सदन को इस बात का उत्तर देना चाहिये कि ऐसी परिस्थिति क्यों पैदा होने दी गई।

१९५५ में भी नदी ने अपनी धारा बदली थी। नजफगढ़ नाले की गन्दगी पीने के पानी में मिल गई थी और परिणाम-स्वरूप व्यापक पैमाने पर एक रोग फैला था। हम आशा करते थे कि इस दुर्घटना से सरकार की आंखें खुलेंगी, लेकिन ऐसा मालूम होता है कि सरकार ने पुराने अनुभवों से लाभ न उठाने का निश्चय कर लिया है और उस का परिणाम यह है कि आज फिर दिल्ली की जनता के सामने एक भयंकर संकट पैदा हो गया है। हम सब जानते हैं कि सरकार खाने के लिये लोगों को पूरा भनाज नहीं दे सकती, शरीर ढापने के लिये पूरा वस्त्र नहीं दे सकती और आज स्थिति यह आ गई है कि सरकार लोगों को पीने के लिये पानी भी नहीं दे सकती है। अगर सरकार में थोड़ी लज्जा होती, तो वह चुल्हू भर पानी में डूब कर मर जाती लेकिन आज शायद यहाँ पर चुल्हू भर पानी भी नहीं है, इसलिये मैं ऐसा नहीं कहता कि उसे डूब भरना चाहिये।

सवाल यह है कि जब एक संकट पैदा हो गया है, तो उस संकट की पूर्व-सूचना क्यों नहीं दी गई। अज्ञानक आकाशवाणी हुई—रेडियो का नाम आकाशवाणी है—कि जल का संकट पैदा हो गया है। अब कितने लोग आकाशवाणी सुनते हैं? दिल्ली की जनता पूरी तरह से इस

संकट का मुकाबला करने के लिये तैयार नहीं की गई। कार्पोरेशन ने एक मोटर बुसा दी, लेकिन अनेक ऐसे क्षेत्र हैं, जिन्हें पहले से सूचना नहीं मिली कि पानी नहीं आयेगा और इस लिये वहाँ के लोग पानी का संग्रह नहीं कर सके। ऐसे अनेक क्षेत्र हैं, जहाँ पानी भेजने का प्रयत्न नहीं किया गया। अगर संकट पैदा हो गया है, तो उस के निराकरण के लिये जो तात्कालिक उपाय अपनाये जाने चाहिये, उन को अपनाने में भी शासन पूरी तरह से असफल सिद्ध हुआ है। सवाल यह है कि जो भी संकट पैदा हो गया है, भविष्य में ऐसा संकट फिर पैदा न हो, ऐसी परिस्थिति पैदा न हो, उस के लिये उपाय अपनाये जाने चाहिये, लेकिन गत वर्षों में इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने जिस ढंग से काम किया है, उस में यह आशा नहीं होती कि भविष्य में इस प्रकार की परिस्थिति पैदा होने में रोकी जा सकेगी। कार्पोरेशन के एक इंजीनियर महोदय ने बताया है कि वह इस संकट की आशंका कर रहे थे। सवाल यह है कि अगर सचमुच में कार्पोरेशन संकट की आशंका कर रही थी, तो उस के निराकरण के लिये उचित कदम क्यों नहीं उठाये गये और गैमा क्यों लगा कि जैसे सरकार अप्रत्याशित रीति में संकट में फस गई है। नदी में—जमुना में—पानी घाया, तो यहाँ बाढ़ आ गई और दिल्ली के सरकारी भवनों में छ छ फीट पानी भर गया। अब नदी थोड़ी मी सरकी है, तो दिल्ली में जल का संकट पैदा हो गया है। क्या दिल्ली के भाग्य का निर्णय जमुना नदी करेगी या हमारे सामने बैठे हुये सरकार के सदस्य करेंगे? मालूम होता है कि सरकार से अधिक शक्ति रखती है जमुना की नदी और अगर सचमुच में जमुना नदी अधिक शक्ति रखती है, तो फिर सरकार ने अभी तक उस के नियंत्रण के लिये ठोस कदम क्यों नहीं उठाये। या तो सरकार यह स्वीकार करके कि हम जमुना पर नियंत्रण नहीं कर सकते, ताकि दिल्ली के नागरिक

[श्री बाजपेयी]

सरकार क्या करे या न करे, इस का विचार छोड़ कर जमुना नदी से प्रार्थना करे। लेकिन सरकार यह दावा करती है कि वह नदियों को टेम कर सकती है, नियंत्रित कर सकती है, बड़े बड़े बाध बना सकती है, जिन का दुनिया में कोई सानी नहीं है, जिन को मन्दिरो का नाम दिया गया है और जिन को अपने कीर्ति-स्तम्भ के रूप में खड़ा कर के वह अपनी कीर्ति के झंडे गाड़ सकती है, तो क्या कारण है कि वह बिल्ली की जल समस्या का निराकरण नहीं कर सकती।

आज जा भी परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई है, उसके लिये किमाना भाग बढ़ कर उत्तरदायित्व ग्रहण करना चाहिये जिम्मेदारी ग्रहण करनी चाहिये और अपनी भूल का स्वीकार करना चाहिये। उसे इस सदन को और दिल्ली की जनता को विश्वास में लेना चाहिये और यह आश्वासन देना चाहिये कि जो भी परिस्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है, उस की पुनरावृत्ति नहीं होने दी जायेगी।

मुझे विश्वास है कि जो भी स्थगन-प्रस्ताव रखे गये हैं, उन्हें स्वीकार किया जायेगा और शासन अपनी जिम्मेदारी को स्वीकार करते हुये इस बात का संकेत देगा कि वह जनता की भावनाओं का आदर करने के लिये तैयार है।

मैंने सबेरे से पानी नहीं पीया है, इसलिये मैं ज्यादा भाषण नहीं कर सकता। धन्यवाद।

Mr. Speaker: Shri S. M. Banerjee

Shri Nath Pai rose—

Mr. Speaker: I will call Shri Banerjee first, as one other Member from his Party has spoken. Now, Shri Banerjee

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Nobody has spoken from my Party also

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): Nobody has got water; so let us speak a bit less (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: Five minutes each

श्री स० न० बनर्जी अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे आज बहुत खुशी है कि कम से कम काम रोकने का प्रस्ताव इस सदन के सामने पानी की कमी की वजह से लाये गये हैं और उन पर विचार करने का मौका हम लोगों को मिला है। मैं कभी कभी सोचता हूँ कि आखिर कोई मसला ऐसा हिन्दुस्तान में है, जिसका समाधान, जिस के लिये उचित कार्यवाही कभी समय रहते भी हमारे सरकार करेगी। आज सदन के सामने यह बताया गया कि दिल्ली में जब बाढ़ का पानी आया तो उस में तकरीबन अठारह व्यक्ति मर गये और काफी लोग जख्मी हो गये और बहुत से मकान गिर गये। मैं सोचता हूँ कि क्या यह सम्भव नहीं है कि चाहे श्ले का मसला हो, बाढ़ का मसला हो, कोई भी मसला हो, उस पर पहले से विचार किया जाये और समय रहते आवश्यक कार्यवाही की जाये, ताकि देश के सामने इस प्रकार की परिस्थिति पैदा न हो और इस तरह का संकट न उठ खड़ा हो, जैसा कि आज हमारे सामने है। दिल्ली हमारे देश की राजधानी है। आज जिन लोगों के हाथों में सत्ता है, उन्होंने ऐसी खूबसूरत राजधानी को करबला का मैदान बना डाला है। मैं ममत्ता हूँ कि अगर किसी और देश में इस तरह की परिस्थिति पैदा होती कि पानी न होने की वजह से बच्चे परेशान हों, तो लाखों लोग इस सदन के सामने आ कर न केवल स्वास्थ्य मंत्री के इस्तीफे की, बल्कि पूरी कैबिनेट के इस्तीफे की मांग करते।

घर हम् प्रैस की न्यूज को पढे, तो हूबे साफ तौर पर पता लगेगा कि इस संकट का कारण क्या है। उस में लिखा है—

“As in the past three years, the threat to the city's water supply has arisen due to a major shift in the course of the Jamuna following a sharp drop in the water level during the last week”

जवाब में यह कहा जाता है कि यमुना इज रिसीडिंग और मैं समझता हू कि यमुना के साथ साथ हमारी सरकार भी जनता से रिसीड करती जा रही है। आखिर इस तरह में कैसे काम चलेगा? आप पानी की समस्या को भी हल नहीं कर सके जो कि इतनी लाजिमी चीज है। यह न करके यहाँ एक माननीय सदस्य को एक पानी का गिलास लाकर देते हुये उससे मजाक किया जाता है। इन्सान की जिन्दगी के साथ इस तरह से मजाक नहीं होना चाहिये। चाहे खाद्यान्न का मसला हो चाहे पानी का मसला हो, अगर इन्सान की जिन्दगी के साथ मजाक करना है तो आप बेशक करे लेकिन याद रखें कि मजाक का जवाब एक न एक दिन हिन्दुस्तान की जनता अवश्य देगी।

मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हू कि एक सीनियर इंजीनियर ने क्या कहा है। उसने कहा है—

“A senior engineer of the Corporation said that the authorities had anticipated the present difficulties”

इस वास्ते यह बात नहीं है कि अचानक ही यह परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई हो बल्कि पहले ही पता था कि ऐसी परिस्थिति पैदा होगी। आप लोगों में कहते हैं कि वे इति-जार करे। कब तक वे इतिजार करे?

तब तक वे इतिजार करे जब तक वे मीत के घाट न उतर जायें, जब तक वे फाका न करे जब तक उनके बच्चे तड़प न कर न मरे।

प्र हमेशा कहते हैं कि आपकी सरकार जनवादी सरकार है, लोगों से इसको चुन कर भेजा है। मैं भी मानता हू कि हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार ऐसी नहीं है जो कि जबरदस्ती भ्रा कर बैठ गई हो। यह लोगो द्वारा चुनी गई सरकार है। जब यह लोगो द्वारा चुन कर आकर हुकूमत की कुमियो पर बैठी है तो कम में कम उम इम चीज का ग्रहमास तो होना चाहिये कि जब उसके सामने कोई चीज आये तो उम पर गम्भीरता से विचार कर और उसका हल करने की कोशिश करे न कि उस पर लोपा पोती करके ही सब कर ले। यह नहीं कहा जाना चाहिये कि राजनीतिक तरीके से उम पर हमला करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। हमारी राजनीतिक तरीके से हमला करने की मनोवृत्ति नहीं है। हम ऐसे लोगो में से नहीं हैं जो इस मनोवृत्ति का परिचय देते हो। हो सकता है कि आज सत्ता की बागडार आपके हाथों में हो मगर हम भी भारत को एक समझ कर उसके विकास में जो बाधायें हैं उनको दूर करने के लिये अपना योगदान करना चाहते हैं और जो मसले हैं उनको हल करने की कोशिश करना चाहते हैं और उसी तरीके में मोचते भी हैं।

मैं कहना चाहता हू कि आज चौदह लाख रुपया न मिलने की वजह से यह जो प्लान है वह कामयाब नहीं हो रहा है। यह चौदह लाख रुपया न देकर आप सट्टेबाजी के लिये एक आदमी को डेढ कराड रुपये का लाइसेंस दे सकने हैं और कह सकत हैं कि वह मट्टा करे लेकिन चौदह लाख आप नहीं द सकते हैं इस स्कीम का कम्पलीट करने के लिये। किस तरह स

[श्री स० म० बनर्जी]

मसले हल होंगे, यह समझ में नहीं आता है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी से, गृह-मंत्री जी से जो कि हमारे पूजनीय नेता हैं और जिनकी मैं बहुत इज्जत करता हूँ कि इस मसले को लेकर दिल्ली की एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को संयोजित करना चाहिये। आखिर क्या बजह है कि पानी का मसला जो कि कई सालों से हमारे सामने है हल नहीं किया गया है। इस मसले को टैम्पेरी तीर पर हल कर देने से काम नहीं चलेगा।

यह ठीक है कि पानी को बायल करके पिया जाना चाहिये और लोग बायल करके पीयेंगे भी। लेकिन पिछली मिसाल भी आपके सामने है। ७०,००० लोग इस बीमारी में परेशान हुये थे सन् १९५५ में और हजारों घर उजड़ गये थे। लेकिन पानी तो उनको मिलना चाहिये और यह भी देखा जाना चाहिये कि नजफगढ़ का उरावनना नाला जो है और जिस का पानी बच्चों की किस्मत में निखा हुआ है कहीं वह इस पानी में न मिला दिया जाये। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस पर सजीदगी से विचार किया जाये। यह मामला मजाक करने का नहीं। एक गिलास पानी दे कर किसी के साथ मजाक नहीं किया जाना चाहिये। यह सवाल हमारे बच्चों की मुस्कलात का सवाल है उनकी जिन्दगी का सवाल है उनकी मौत का सवाल है और इसमें कोई कोताही नहीं होनी चाहिये। यह मसला दिल्ली शहर का ही नहीं है बल्कि कलकत्ता शहर में भी यह मसला उठने वाला है लेकिन उसकी तरफ बंगाल गवर्नमेंट कोई ध्यान नहीं दे रही है और यहाँ की हुकूमत भी खामोश बैठी हुई है। बंगाल में भी छ महीने में मेलाइन वाटर का मसला उठने वाला है और वहाँ भी यही हालत होगी। मैं कोई भविष्यवाणी नहीं कर रहा हूँ बल्कि तजुबों के आधार पर मैं यह कह रहा हूँ। मैं माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी से दरखास्त करता हूँ कि वह इस मसले को राजनीतिक

मसला न माने और न ही इसको राजनीतिक रंग दें बल्कि साफ तरीके से मानें कि उसके मसली हुई है, यह फ़िनिशल नैगिजेंस है, इंडिफेंस की बजह से यह हुआ है, केमलसैस की बजह से हुआ है। यह उनको मानना पड़ेगा। अगर वह नहीं मानते तो मैं समझूंगा कि वह बहुमत का अपमान करते हैं, जमहूरियत का अपमान करते हैं जमहूरियत का जनाजा इस सदन से निकालना चाहते हैं, लोगों को पानी न देकर उनको प्यासा मारना चाहते हैं।

Mr Speaker. Shri Nath Pai

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, is not the Minister going to reply? We would like to hear his defence

Mr. Speaker We won't close the debate without hearing the Minister

Shri Nath Pai Mr Speaker Sir it pained me to hear Shri Radha Raman, for whom I have considerable respect, that he should have thought it fit to introduce politics into his speech, though Shri Goray has done his utmost to keep above party politics. Most of us, Sir, did not have any water before coming here, if Shri Radha Raman had it, it must have been contaminated, for his was a case of jaundice

Sir, I should begin by pointing out to you a very serious feature about this matter. It is something which has to be very seriously taken to heart by everybody, in spite of the fact that the man who is speaking belongs to the Opposition. It is this, that on the slightest mistake or something going wrong such serious and vital arteries of our life can be upset in the capital—communications can be upset, water-supply can be upset—and I would like, particularly, the Prime Minister and the Home Minister to take into consideration the implications of this. Sir, the border is not far away from here, and any enemy can play any kind of havoc with this

country, because the capital's life can be paralysed by anything, as we have noticed it within the short period of three weeks. It was once deluged with water and everything went out of order. Today we have a shortage of water. Only yesterday somebody told me that when they were landing in India they saw water all around the capital—he is staying with me, a foreign young man—and this morning when the water was cut off, he said that it is like the case of the ancient mariners "water, water everywhere, not a drop to drink"

Sir, I should like to bring to the notice of the House—though there is danger of some repetition, because the report has been mentioned repeatedly in this House—the report on the investigation carried into the jaundice epidemic that had broken out in the capital. Sir, there is a tremendous and disturbing parallel between the two tragedies. On that occasion, on the 11th of November, there was full indication that the water was contaminated, nothing was done, and as many as 400,000 people in a population of nearly 20,00,000 were seriously affected. Many died and it was a major catastrophe. Today we find the same thing. We were told this morning by the Minister that on the 15th itself they had the warning that some thing was going wrong with the course of the river. No warning was issued to the people. No steps were taken. The slightest thing they could have done was first, to order the people to see that the water is boiled before they take it, and secondly, to ask the people through the innumerable instruments of publicity that they control to make some storage of water. This elementary precaution, they failed to take. Water is the perennial requirement of life. But the only thing we get perennially is some tears which Ministers shed when something goes wrong. On that occasion, also they came and shed tears.

I may make a suggestion here. Perhaps the Ministry concerned with scientific research may consider whether some of the tears could not be distilled. It may perhaps satisfy the water requirements of at least some of these unfortunate refugee colonies. I would not press this suggestion very seriously because I know these are crocodile tears.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to this aspect again. After 15 days, perhaps, the Prime Minister may consider. We are not speaking from a partisan point of view, we should like to assure him and the Home Minister and the Health Minister. Somebody up in the administration very seriously qualified himself for Bharat Ratna next year by this miraculous job.

Last fortnight, there was deluge of water, and water had to be pumped out from every house, and today, you have, including this House, to go clamouring for a drop of water. We were reduced to the status of Quasimodj crying hoarse for water and Ismeralda coming and announcing that there will be water at least in the evening. We thank the Minister and welcome this announcement that there will be water for the evening.

I would like to point out yet another disturbing feature. It is this. At that time, the Minister concerned gave us an assurance. I read from the Lok Sabha reports:

'Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, speaking in the House, said "I entirely agree with my friend, Dr Lanka Sundaram. He has made very valuable suggestions regarding changing the location of Wazirabad pumping station"

Three long years have passed, and what has been done? There is the promise and an assurance of a Minister who was witness to a tragedy that had befallen the capital. Three years have passed and yet he has to be

[Shri Nath Pal]

awakened. The whole capital is involved, and had to witness it. After all, Rip Van Winkle had to be shaken out of his self-complacency.

Some Hon. Members: He has not been shaken.

Shri Nath Pai: They say he has not been shaken. I would like to do it. They mentioned that the Army's dredger could not be moved. If you look at the report of that Committee, it is the same old complaint. That time also, there was that bulldozer. It could not be put into operation, because there was slush and mud. How long? Sometimes we are reminded, and the Prime Minister will pardon me if I quote:

"Quosque tandem abotere catilena patienter nostra q".

How long is this old excuse to be repeated to this House? The Prime Minister knows Latin, and he knows what I mean. How often are these old excuses, out-dated, outmoded, sorely tired excuses to be repeated everytime some such thing comes?

The river went wrong, it was said. This morning the Minister said that the Jumna is going very fast to the left. I do not quite understand whether he was complaining that the river is going left or whether he was complaining that it is going fast. Everything is going left in this country, I thought. That cannot possibly be his complaint. But perhaps he complained that the river is going fast. Everything is going in this world with the speed of Sputnik, with supersonic speed. Only our administration insists moving with the speed of a bullock-cart. Nothing will change. Three years rolled by, and yet so much inconvenience has been caused, and the old excuses that the river is moving very fast are given.

I need not refer to those things which everybody has referred to. There are three things that could

have been easily done. Either the pumping station should have been moved northward or the nullah could have been moved downwards or, as they say, a weir could have been built on the river bed so that the suction would be proper, and this contaminated water would not have come in. He asks: "Should we supply that contaminated water". No, you cannot do that. We in this capital Government are entitled to be supplied with pure water. It is your duty. In duty bound you are to give us that. You cannot pose us with this dilemma: "Either contaminated water or no water". That is what he said this morning. No such thing can be tolerated. You are bound to supply us clean water, good water and enough water, and you cannot escape from that duty, unless you want to relinquish it in which case you are free to do it.

This morning, the Minister tried to take us into confidence and wanted to enlighten us. Well, I was reminded of the story of the cloud in the Sanskrit proverb which said that it thundered but brought nothing; no water. He promised to take us into confidence and so far as the information he gave us, by taking us into confidence, it was no better than what was given in this morning's papers, the only difference being that the papers were more concise, more precise and said the same thing in shorter language than he put.

I do not want to labour on the points because you are looking at me and I want to hear the reply. There is one thing I want to say very seriously. In all earnestness I charge this Government with dereliction of its duty. It is a case of gross indifference, of utter irresponsibility and serious failure to take adequate steps when they were called for and when they were warned of it. Formerly the Government opposite had failed, as somebody has pointed

out, to give us housing, clothing, food; and now, they cannot give even God given water which the Himalayas and the sky above pour on this country. Even the most elementary thing, they cannot give.

I say in conclusion only this thing. We are pledged to give a very high standard of life to the people of this country. If they want to prove their earnestness and their ability to do this very difficult thing, let them convince the people by doing a very elementary thing by satisfying the most elementary need of man—the supply of water to Delhi—without any repetition of the failure which we have seen now.

With these words, I support the adjournment motion.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: A little while ago, we read in the papers that the Government have been able to bring back the receding liver near *smasan* or burning ghat to the pumping station and one of the Ministers actually went there, poured milk into the river and all that. I would like to know why such measures were not taken to keep the river near the mouth of the pumping station. It is quite obvious that if in one case it was successful, efforts could have been made to keep the river near the mouth of the pumping station. I would like to know why such an effort was not made.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): As a temporary measures cannot water be brought by tankers and by other means?

Shri Karmarkar: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I took the liberty of saying myself this morning, it is not a subject of taking sides. It is a subject of importance to all sides of the House and to the whole population of Delhi. From that point of view, as I was closely listening to the contributions of my various esteemed colleagues, I could gather three points and I asked myself three questions. Firstly, was there any remissness in respect of the

water failure today and yesterday? Was there anything which the authorities could do, which they had not done? Were there any precautions that should have been taken and which have not been taken? That was the first question.

The second question was from the long-term point of view. Attention has been rightly drawn to the committee's report. The committee which was appointed after the tragedy of jaundice in Delhi went into the matter very thoroughly. We esteem their thoroughness of work and we accepted their recommendations. As I will have occasion to tell the House a little later, excepting two the other recommendations have been accepted and are being put into practice. The two recommendations concerning the augmentation of the water-supply dependent upon other States like U.P., the Hindon water-supply, etc., are subjects of negotiation between the Government of India—now, of course, the Corporation has come into being—and the States concerned, like Punjab and U.P.

Shri Tyagi: For how long?

Shri Karmarkar: Let the hon. Members wait patiently; I shall tell. The third is in regard to the suggestions rightly made. For instance, Dr. Sushila Nayar suggested, is it not practicable to have a permanent reservoir? On this point, I would like to invite the attention of the House to one fact and that is, the contour of Delhi is peculiar. In Bombay, we can think of reservoirs where water could be permanently stored. Here the main source of water has been found to be the Jumna. In this flat part of the country, there is no other way by which we can, say, bring the mountain water from Himalayas down by gravitation and store that water. That has not been found to be practicable. The best experts have gone into the matter and they have not found that suggestion to be feasible. Whether we like it or not, we have

[Shri Karmarkar]

to depend substantially for our Delhi's water-supply on the Jumna river. The House very well knows the difficulties of bringing that water and storing it. With due respect, I do not think the suggestion is a practicable proposition, namely, to think in terms of creating a reservoir for pumping out water from Jumna and storing it. Attempts are being made to increase the present reservoir space. In fact, we have small reservoirs to serve the respective localities. That is the peculiarity of the water-supply position in Delhi. Lake power supply. What is created has to be distributed. The water that comes to us in New Delhi, for instance, is the water which was pumped from the Jumna some hours back, purified and distributed. There is no other way. There is the possibility of storing a small percentage just as what was done yesterday. The water that was supplied from 5 to 7 was water that was stored. The water that is being given now from 5 to 7 this evening is from what has been stored in the morning.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the storage capacity?

Shri Karmarkar: It is up to 10 hours in some cases.

An Hon Member: Why not increase it?

Shri Karmarkar: That is the difficulty in the situation of Delhi so far as the water supply is concerned.

There is another fact which we tend to forget, and in fairness to those of our officers or bodies which are in charge of the water supply—in some cases they fail, sometimes on account of causes partially beyond their control—we must say that in spite of all that has been stated—(unfortunately for us we had the jaundice epidemic and I will not go into the facts now)—after we had passed through that disaster, it must be said to the credit

of those who are in charge of water supply in Delhi—and hon Members will testify to this fact—that last year although we had a long range of epidemics in different States, cholera, small-pox and things like that, Delhi has been very peculiarly free from these epidemics, and the credit for this goes to those people who day in and day out look after the purity of the water supply in Delhi. I can say here with confidence that so far as the purity of the normal water supply is concerned, it can compare with that of any other city's water supply. There is no doubt about it.

An Hon Member: Nobody complained about that.

Shri Karmarkar: I am coming to that half a second later on. I want the House to be indulgent. I did not interrupt the hon Members when some of the members gave wrong facts.

An Hon Member: Come to the point.

Mr. Speaker: Should we not allow the hon Minister to speak?

Shri Nagi Reddy (Anantapur): There was no complaint about last year. The complaint is about this year.

Shri Karmarkar: I am coming to that.

Mr. Speaker: Hon Members should not go on interrupting.

Shri Nagi Reddy: Let him come to the point.

Mr. Speaker: This is very wrong. He knows what to say.

Shri Karmarkar: If the hon Member waits half a second longer, I am going to reply to his question. The change in the course of the river is something which generally happens in September. But it happened this year.

a little too early on account of the extraordinary floods. Normally we did not expect it in August, but this year it came a bit early. It was not as if water was completely cut off yesterday; it was only the first floor tenements that were not getting water. We did not expect that the total water supply would fail. And let me tell you that the water did not fail completely, because the precautions were taken. It was not as if the whole of yesterday water could not be supplied. But we deliberately did not supply water yesterday evening. Why? Because, there is a certain limit beyond which the chloride content should not go. After the test was over, there were two views about the matter by the medical wing of the Corporation. The question was: shall we wait for a little while? We cannot deny water for weeks or days together. But we sat down and thought. Is it good waiting till the chloride content of the water is five to a million? They went seven to a million. That was a safe limit. But when the chloride content of water up to 15 to a million, they paused: shall we deny the city of Delhi water for some time say half a day or shall we supply impure water? That was the question that was before us. Should we wait till we are satisfied about the chloride content? Hon. Members are free to attack us by saying that proper vigilance was not exercised. But really we took a serious view of the matter when the Corporation authorities told us yesterday: here is the inconvenience, here is the difficulty. Even today the problem was before us in the noon when I paid a visit personally to the Wazirabad intake well. The problem that was posed before me was: are we to take a risk in the matter of water supply for the immediate requirements? If we wanted, we could have given water which was dirty. Was it worthwhile causing inconvenience to the city or was it worthwhile serving dirty water to the people? Even today also when I visited the work, we had to face the problem. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Minister continue.

Shri Nath Pal: We do not want to interrupt. But he is not dealing with the points raised by members.

Shri Karmarkar: I will deal with the points one by one.

श्री कावच : पीने के लिये पानी बाहर मे लाया जा सकता था ।

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Members want to put questions, they must put them to the Chair. I cannot allow this kind of interruption. This is very wrong. Hon. Members should set an example to others. They have chosen them as representatives.

I have given opportunity to every section in the Opposition. The hon. Minister is replying to every point as he thinks best. What is the good of interrupting? Hon. Members will kindly write out what they want the hon. Minister to say and I shall ask him to repeat that. There is no meaning in interrupting like this. I have watched very carefully and have allowed every reasonable opportunity to the Opposition. They seem to control the Ministers here. It is improper. The Opposition has got a right to speak but not to control the Ministers. Shall I convert the majority into a minority? That seems to be the kind of democracy that hon. Members want me to exercise in this House. I am not going to do so.

18 hrs.

Shri Karmarkar: I was just on the question on which hon. Members were very particular. They charged the Government as also the Corporation with remissness. Let them listen to me patiently and then honestly tell me whether they are satisfied or not.

When I paid a visit this morning, I looked at the thing from a critical

[Shri Karmarkar]

point of view. What was the situation there? I am prepared to take as many hon. Members as are willing to come this evening or tomorrow morning and see as to how matters on the river bank are like. What did I find? I found, for instance, that the channel which flows into the intake well at Wazirabad was absolutely sluggish. It was not sufficient as the water current had gone ahead. Between this channel which is 20 feet or 30 feet wide at places and the other bank of river is an expanse of 1000 feet or 1200 feet, all wet and slush. It has been so for the last four days. Then I asked the officer-in-charge as to what was the condition on the 14th evening and on the 15th morning. He told me that the whole surface was water on the 14th. Then on the 15th a part of the river was visible. A part of land was visible which meant that water was going down. Every day, since the 15th, on the 16th, on the 17th water has gone down by about '9 to a foot in surface in extent of 100 to 200 feet. That is the situation. In such slush conditions no dredger can work and all that was entirely necessary for them to do was to take a channel from the receding waters into the intake well. That was their whole difficulty. On the first day there were 500 men working, on the second day about a thousand men, yesterday there were 3000 labourers and today about 2,500 to 3,000 people are actually working. Hon. Members will appreciate the fact that when the river is almost wet, it is so very difficult to take a channel across unless a part of it is dry—it need not be completely dry but at least it should be solid to enable the workmen to dig a channel. What happened was that they had four dredgers or whatever they call it. I saw this morning that the Army put an Army dredger or bulldozer which got stuck and could not work till 2 p.m. this afternoon. When it once began to work it began to do about 900 people's work.

Shri Nagi Reddy: The point is.....

Mr. Speaker: I will have to ask the hon. Member to keep out of the House until the hon. Minister finishes his speech, if he goes on interrupting like this.

Shri Nagi Reddy: But, Sir, the point is....

Mr. Speaker: He has no right to interrupt like this.

Shri Karmarkar: Actually till 2 p.m. this afternoon the Army bulldozer could not work. When I saw it working, it used to do a lot of work and in about two hours' time the whole channel has been cleared up. I have it from my colleague, the hon. Deputy Minister of Defence that the whole work has been done in about three hours' time. One of the channels has been cleared. Now, there is no question. If the channel's resources are augmented, by the evening we will have got 50% of the normal intake of the intake well and maybe, if all goes well, by tomorrow evening the normal water supply will be tackled.

Now, that is so far as the steps taken are concerned. I may tell the House that I myself went into the matter critically and I am fully satisfied that all that was possible was done. In testimony thereof—of course, it is very regrettable because now the water is on from 5 to 7 but the hon. Members are absent from their residence—I am prepared to take hon. Members this evening or tomorrow morning. I wish an impartial committee of the House to tell us what better arrangements they could have made in the circumstances.

An Hon. Member: Appoint a committee.

Shri Karmarkar: An expert committee of people who know their job.....This is about what has happened.

I should also feel it my duty to tell the House of the permanent measures

that were sought to be taken. I will not take the time of the House too long. I have before me an analysis of the 13 principal recommendations that were made by that Committee. If I may put it that way, apart from other organisational matters and things like that, there were what I might call three structural recommendations, some things to be done to the river. One was to have a wall along the right side of the bank, the whole idea being, in the near future, by the next year, whatever happens, howsoever erratic Jumna may behave next year, water supply may be ensured. I will not follow my hon. friend's suggestion that ultimately milk should be poured into the Jumna. In these hard days for food and things like that, I would not pour any more milk into the Jumna to induce the Jumna to be kind to us. I should like to take scientific measures. The main problem before us during the last three years has been to train the current of Jumna in such manner that the Wazirabad intake well may have sufficient water.

Hon. Members will be surprised to learn, those of them that have been critical, that right till yesterday morning, the average supply of pure water has been 162 million gallons per day. We have not failed in that; not even 100 gallons less. It is only yesterday morning that they discovered that difficulty. They could have given 20 million gallons of water. But, they thought about the matter. The sullage had increased. The chlorine content increased, as I said, from 5 to 7 to 14 per million. There was difference of opinion, one opinion holding, it does not matter, things may not happen, there will be a scare. The medical opinion was, does not matter if water fails for half a day, people will understand; rather than giving them poison or sullage water or water that might lead to unfortunate developments again, let us stop the water for half a day. Supposing, unhappily, even if we did not take corrective measures, I would have requested the people to

boil the water—we understand; but, everybody does not understand; for the man in the street, yesterday evening, they put it on the radio; I did not know that till this morning when water supply failed; I was told that it was put on the radio; but, the radio does not reach everybody—rather than take the risk of the common man suffering for our well-meant failure of duty in the sense that we did not want to starve children, we stopped the water. It is a sad pity. I do not hold it good for one moment to deprive people of drinking water. But, then, that was the alternative before us. Yesterday, I must say, I congratulated the Corporation authorities who decided to give us rather inconvenience than impending illness yesterday. If unhappily even today, the situation had persisted, then, I should like to tell the House that the best way to use the water that would come this evening, tomorrow and for two or three days more, would be to boil it and drink it. Because, ultimately, there is no precaution, and no precaution will be sufficient for the purpose. Ultimately, I saw water flowing fast. No water was delivered till yesterday evening which could not be counted as perfectly pure from the point of view of chlorine content.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): May I know one point? When water is coming from above, is there any fear of the Najafgarh nulla coming and contaminating the water? There is no fear.

Shri Karmarkar: In ten or 15 minutes, I am coming to that. That is an important point which I cannot miss. So far as the immediate occurrence of scarcity of water is concerned, I for one look at the problem objectively, not as a Member of the Treasury Bench. Of course, I am bound to look at it from that point of view. But, in such a question, one cannot look at it from the conventional point of view because failure in such

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a case would be absolute failure. Looking at it objectively, I do not find fault. In fact, when the problem was put before me, shall we pump in 25 million gallons of water in the evening, shall we pump 14 million gallons of pure water or 25 million gallons of pure and impure water, I said, I must consult opinion. I must be sure whether it would be wiser to give a limited supply of water or give more water which is capable of producing disease. Under the circumstances, I would respectfully put it to the House and I am quite sure that on this point, whether it is Shri A. K. Gopalan or Shri Goray or any one except Shri Nath Pai who went on conventional lines, they will agree. I was very much impressed by what I might call, with all respect, the sincerity of what they said, because ultimately, the cause is as dear to us as it is to them. They have right to have a grievance though they were a little misinformed. That is another matter. I was very courteous to them when I said that they were little misinformed. That is another matter. I said I entirely agree in their grievance and from that point of view, if they could take my objective word for it, there is absolutely no remissness so far as the occurrence of the past 4 or 5 days is concerned. In fact, I should say, for the inconvenience caused, we shall ask the people to pardon us. Nobody could be more miserable than any one on this side or on the other side that people should go without water, that students should go without water. There could be nothing more miserable, but under the circumstances, we had no other option. Of course, if the same thing had repeated, we would have gone and gegged round the streets to drink the water, but drink it after all precaution. But I must tell the House that they served us very well in giving whatever water they have given. They have given the best till yesterday evening, and that is the best they could have done.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Why were not people warned?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall deal with that small point.

As soon as they found yesterday that the chloride content had begun to go up to 14 and 15, they took the earliest measures to warn people. They put it out on the radio, they put it up everywhere in the streets of Old Delhi. I do not know what happened in New Delhi. I have it before me that by tom-tom and other measures they did it, but in such matters, let me honestly confess that such messages of caution will not reach every home. There is always an imperfection in this matter. One cannot go to every home and tell every one. I have known of educated people who have been warned, who still say: "Nothing has happened to me till now. What will happen to me in the future?" Our people are phenomenally careless even when warned, but I will not say every step was taken to have every man warned. That is about all.

Coming to the permanent scheme of things, I do not think I need take a long time of the House on this occasion, there will be many opportunities, but in fairness to the committee's recommendations and how we have implemented them, I should like to tell the House that of the 13 principal recommendations, on 11 we have taken action. I will mention a few.

For instance: the engineering authorities should not be obsessed solely with the question of the quantity of water, but should pay equal attention to its quality. And they recommended that a special laboratory should be set up. I had occasion to go to the laboratory. They do thorough testing now, and no water that comes from the Delhi water supply is in any manner impure in its quality.

Then they say there should be reorientation and all that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May we hear the eleven points?

Shri Karmarkar: The powers of the engineering secretary of the Joint Water and Sewage Board should be adequately increased. They have been increased.

One central unitary authority should be constituted to look after all civic matters. Now there is a very responsible corporation. I must say from what I have seen of their work, that they are doing full justice to the task that is entrusted to them.

The Water and Sewage Board was formerly what you call an autonomous body. Sometimes an autonomous body can be responsible to nobody, but then here it is responsible, the arrangements are responsible, to the corporation, and the corporation stands good towards its citizens.

Then they have mentioned about the advice that may be received from the Director of the Khadakvasla Research Station in regarding to the training of the river. There are two points about the training. One is lining it with a stone wall. That was finished last year. The other was a stone weir. I am sorry, unless one goes and sees the spot, one cannot visualise it. When you put down the weir along the whole river, then that water goes in on one side, and when from the weir through the sluice gate water is allowed, it will induce the carriage from the left side to the right side. I do not mind men or rivers going left. Here is a river going left as some persons also do. That is another matter. Here we want to train the current of the river from the left side to the right side to the intake well.

About this weir, any one can see that the work is partially complete. By the end of summer 1959 it will be definitely complete. By next year I

do hope that we shall be able to answer this precise question, viz., whether the water has been trained or not, because we have taken the advice of the Khadakvasla station, which is one of the best, if I may say so without offending any one, in the world so far as advice on water course and things like that are concerned, and we have precisely followed their advice; and I am quite sure when this weir is completed by the summer of 1959 there will be no question of the river going wrong.

Then about the permanent arrangements, I may say that out of 22 lakhs of population, about four lakhs go without good filtered water, and about 18 lakhs are being served. As I said a moment ago, the per capita consumption in Delhi—I speak subject to correction, and I wish some one points out if am wrong—so far as my information goes is the highest in the country, 35 gallons per day. Neither Bombay nor Calcutta nor Madras has a per capita consumption of 35 gallons per day.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Does that include industrial supply also, or domestic consumption?

Shri Karmarkar: Pure drinking water. We are just now on drinking water. About industrial water supply, we shall come to it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Does this 35 gallons per day include industrial supply also or only domestic supply?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not sure about industrial supply; perhaps, it may be more, but I am not sure of it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Then, the per capita consumption in Bombay will be more.

Shri Karmarkar: When I am on the right point, my hon. friend need not divert me to something else.

I was speaking of the domestic water supply. About industrial supply, I am not having the information before me, 62 million gallons of water

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divided by 18 lakhs comes roughly to about 35 gallons. That is straight arithmetic. (*Interruptions*). Let me complete my point; and this is not a point on which I should like to linger, because it is not exactly pertinent now.

The point is that we want to augment this water supply to 90 million gallons, because as I said, we have still left out four lakhs of people. There is one small difficulty here which perhaps we do not appreciate as we go along. The actual annual addition to Delhi's population has been during the last five or six years on an average 60,000; last year, it has been 80,000, and this is owing to reasons which I need not detail here. Anyone comes and settles anywhere and then asks for pure water supply. This is the trouble. Labour comes in—we have our sympathies with them—and they settle down anywhere, and they do not ask the corporation's permission to settle; they build as they like; they build some thatched huts, then they build a kutchra house and then a pucca house and this procession of evolution is going on, as the hon. Members are aware. It has been, let me confess, beyond our power to exactly regulate things as we would in a settled city. And things are yet unsettled in Delhi. We are trying our best, with the Planning Officer, the D.P.O. and the rest. As I said, the problem at present is with regard to the four or five lakhs of population. At the present moment, I may say, that according to the latest census, we have got about 23 lakhs of population. Out of them, four or five lakhs of population are served with unfiltered water. Now, in order to have an adequate water supply, we are taking measures to have all this water supply as adequate as possible. Therefore, certain steps are being taken. As I was saying, I have answered many questions in this House last year and a little earlier this year also, as to what measures are being taken. But the measures will

be complete only by the end of 1959; and by that time, we do hope that the actual water supply of Delhi will be 90 million gallons as has been suggested. But that is not all. We are planning for a Delhi which may have an increased population of 3 million. But, for that, as my esteemed friend Dr. Sushila Nayar has suggested, something else has to be done. She mentioned to me about having a fixed reservoir or store-house at the foot of the Himalayas or somewhere near the mountains. But that is a long long way to this place. And because it is a long way to the place where we could have a stored water supply at the foot of the hills, we cannot help it.

The only best conclusion that our experts have come to is what is known as the Hindon river scheme. An expert committee has been established for this purpose, consisting of experts; it is headed by the Chief Engineer, CPWD.; the Director, Central Water and Power Commission, the Chief Engineer (Water), Delhi Municipal Corporation, the Chief Engineer (Irrigation), U.P., and the Chief Engineer (Irrigation), Punjab are its members. This committee has been doing a lot of work. There are so many difficulties where the States are concerned. Still, it is getting along, and as I understand it, they have come to some type of understanding; there was understanding on some points, and there was difference on others, but the work is actively going on. When that scheme goes into operation, we hope to have increased water supply. That is for the future not for but for five years later, when we shall have 120 million gallons of water.

My hon. friend Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani who was a little wrong with regard to facts said that we were not planning to have 150 million gallons of water. I do not think that in the immediate future . . .

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I would refer the Minister to the report

of the Jaundice Enquiry Committee which has given us those figures. I am only quoting the figures supplied by the Government.

Shri Karmarkar: That is all right But three years have passed after the Jaundice Enquiry Committee's report We are planning for augmenting the water supply to suffice for a population of 3 million people That is when the scheme materialises It is not as if that if immediately this does not happen, tomorrow the water supply will fail The immediate step which is necessary is to augment the water supply from 60 million to 90 million We are taking that, and by the end of 1958, we hope to be in a position to tell the House that this has been achieved That is the position so far as the long range is concerned

Now, there have been suggestions round about the House, and I have tried to digest what was said, but I must say this regretfully It has been asked, 'Why not tube-wells?' It is a good suggestion to make, 'If the river water fails, why not tube-wells?'

An Hon Member: Yes, why not?

Shri Karmarkar: Of course, one ignorance does not make anything by adding to another The whole difficulty is like this We have found tube-wells, and let me tell the House very frankly that we are faced with the problem of many colonies going without water Take, for instance, the colony just on the Mehrauli Road I forget the name of that particular colony, but there was that colony At many places the tube-wells do not give good water many a time Unless the tube-well goes deep enough, it is no good tube-well If we go deep enough, it is not always that the water is full Our misfortune in Delhi has been that we have not a sufficient number of places where tube-wells have been giving a good supply of water.

Of course, it is reasonable to say that it is not wise in future emergencies to shut out the wells that exist. This afternoon, when I was driving back from that place, I saw people clustering round some wells This is a suggestion for the Corporation to consider whether good drinking water or fairly good drinking water could not be taken from wells, the wells kept clean and all that I would pass on the suggestion to them Doubtless, it will be noted for working on when there is an emergency

For instance, you know, Sir, that one of the wells in your compound had to be filled in In fact, if I may say so with your permission, we were told that the Speaker was rather unwilling to have it closed I said, 'Close the well, but do not offend the Speaker' There it is We would not like our Speaker to be anywhere near water which would not be considered as perfect water So that is the situation

Mr. Speaker: I may inform the hon Minister that I did not allow the closure Today all the persons round about are getting water from that well

Shri Karmarkar: I will not say anything further on that point

So that is the whole situation Everywhere in Delhi it is not always that good water can be found But the suggestion should be worked out In my opinion, different sites should be taken up and more wells attempted, and if there is drinking water available, it should be kept guarded and put to good use, as in some localities it is being put to good use It has to be preserved with care for use in emergencies, but I do hope that no emergency will arise hereafter in Delhi so as to go in for tube-wells, because ultimately with the amount

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of care that we are taking and the amount of vigilance our friends in the Opposition are exercising, I do hope that no misfortune about water will arise in Delhi

That is all I have to say. As I said at the commencement, I should like to say that there has been no problem about which we are more anxious about a solution than this problem of water supply because even if we succeed in everything else in Delhi and fail in reference to water, We will consider it as a failure also with regard to the others. It will be my duty under the careful guidance of this House to look after this. Of course, the Corporation is there now, a very responsible body. Formerly, one could say that the Ministry or department could not look to it. But now there is a Corporation working in a very efficient manner and we have every hope that with all the care we are bestowing on the solution of this problem, this problem will not arise in future.

I would beg of this House to consider one aspect. Ultimately whatever is said in this House is bound to have an importance outside. If there is a word said in this House which is likely to increase the scare, where scare is not good, then with all the best intentions and without any disrespect to anyone, I do feel that we do a damage to the social cause in which all of us, we, the Opposition and everybody, are equally interested.

Therefore, it was that I craved the indulgence of this House to place all the facts before it. I am hoping that in view of the full explanation given, there will be no need to put the motion to vote. In fact, it might be good to have a periodical discussion in the House itself, once in three months, because in a democratic Constitution, parliamentary discussion has a great importance. For instance, this discussion will not only give courage to those who are already engaged in this task, but will spur them on to further effort, because

they know that Parliament is very particular about it. Therefore, the utility of such discussions is very great. But in view of the facts placed by me before the House, would it be too much for me to expect of our good friends who have moved the adjournment motion with all the good intention to say 'Here is a discussion. Well, we shall be vigilant hereafter. There is no need for an adjournment motion'?

Several Hon. Members rose—

Shri Anthony Pillai (Madras North): One point has not been answered. Why is it that a 24-hour alert was not given to the population of the city that the danger was coming?

An Hon. Member: It has been answered.

Shri Nath Pal: It has not been answered.

Shri Goray: I have listened very carefully to the speech made by the hon. Minister. At the end he said that the adjournment motion should be withdrawn. I would like to say that after listening to him I am all the more convinced why this adjournment motion should be pressed.

I thought that after listening to this debate and knowing the seriousness with which the hon. Members of this House belonging to all parties were thinking about this matter, how their minds are exercised over it, the Health Minister would give a more cogent reply. All that he did was to bury the question that we raised under a heap of irrelevant facts. He said that these facts were not known. But these facts were not at all relevant.

The issue was why such a contingency arose when a similar contingency had arisen two years back. He said that the bull-dozer could not

work on ground which was slushy. The same thing occurred two years back when there was contamination of water. He says that the Jamuna had gone to the left side. The same thing has been happening year after year. Shri Radha Raman told us that this is not at all a new phenomenon. It has been happening for years together. There is no answer.

Then I pointed out that the expert committee had recommended three things. That you should complete the Najafgarh Nalla project so thoroughly that the water flowing through that would not be in a position to contaminate Jamuna water. That particular work has not been completed.

There was another thing—let us have a weir. That has not been completed.

There was a third thing; that alternative source from Hinden should be taken up. That has not been done. It has not even started.

These were the real issues to which he had no answer at all. He tried to give us how many gallons of water we were consuming; the rate at which the Delhi population is increasing (Interruption). Were these figures really necessary? It was taken for granted that Delhi is a growing city. You want people to come here. If you want that there should be industries, if you want that there should be rich people coming in and settling here, it is bound to happen that this city will attract more and more people who want employment. So, all that is granted. What is not granted is that when you know those facts you cannot go to sleep and you cannot come here in the House and say that we have been trying. What have you been trying? Two years is sufficient time for anybody who is wide awake,

who is vigilant, who wants really to do things to complete all this.

We moved an adjournment motion because we wanted to know why is it that within 2 years after the report you have not been able to complete this work which was recommended by the committee. To that I have received no answer; only vague promises, a lot of flowery eloquence. It is really hard to imagine a worse meaningless verbiage, absolutely meaningless, which is not relevant to the issues that were raised on the floor of this House. Therefore, I want this adjournment motion should be voted upon.

In the last analysis, Sir, it is a question of priority. I would not like to offend the Prime Minister. But I would ask, Sir, that when we are spending crores of rupees on a hotel like the Ashoka Hotel, it is a question whether you give to the city of Delhi a supply of clean water or whether you would give them this hotel. For me the priority is that we must supply the city with clean water. That is the first thing. Then, we should give schools to children and Ashoka Hotel the last, if at all. That is my order of priority.

But here we find that we build the Ashoka Hotel worth Rs. 3 crores. And, my friend, Shri Radha Raman gets up and says: where is the money? I would like to advise Shri Radha Raman to catch hold of Shri Morarji Desai before he goes to America and ask him for money. We are ready in this House to give him sufficient money if it is to bring us clean water and a perennial supply of water. We are ready. We have been spending crores on schemes which are not at all immediately profitable. Therefore, I say that in this House, this question ought to be discussed on a level which does not admit of any party affiliations at all. It is a question which

[Shri Goray]

affects all of us; it is a question which affects the life and death of millions of people. Therefore, I commend my adjournment motion for the acceptance of the House.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I have two minutes, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: No, no. Act 6.30 I must put the question to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the House do now adjourn."

18.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha divided.

Shri D. V. Rao (Nalgonda): Sir, the mechanism is not working properly. I vote for the 'Ayes'.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): I voted for the 'Noes' but it is not working properly.

Shri Neswi (Dharwar South): The mechanism here is also not working properly. I vote for the 'Noes'.

Mr. Speaker: I have taken these into account.

The result of the division is as follows:

Ayes—48; Noes—181.

AYES

[Division No. 2

18.36hrs.

Banerjee, Shri S.M.
Bharucha, Shri Naushir
Braj Raj Singh, Shri
Chakravartty, Shrimati Renu
Dige, Shri
Dwivedy, Shri Surendranath
Gaikwad, Shri B. K.
Ghosal, Shri
Gopalan, Shri A. K.
Iyer, Shri Easwara
Jadhav, Shri
Jaispal Singh, Shri
Kamal Singh, Shri
Kar, Shri Prabhat
Karni Singhji, Shri
Khadilkar, Shri

Kodiyan, Shri
Kumbhar, Shri
Kunhan, Shri
Majhi, Shri R. C.
Matin, Qazi
Mehta, Shri Asoka
Menon, Dr K. B.
Menon, Shri Narayanankutty
More, Shri
Mullick, Shri B. C.
Nair, Shri Vasudevan
Nath Pai, Shri
Panigrahi, Shri
Parulekar, Shri
Parvathi Krishnan, Shrimati

Patel, Shri Rajeshwar
Patil, Shri Balasaheb
Patil, Shri Nana
Pillai, Shri Anthony
Rai, Shri Khushwaqt
Raman, Shri
Rao, Shri D. V.
Reddy, Shri Nagi
Salunke, Shri Balasaheb
Singh, Shri L. Achaw
Sonule, Shri H. N.
Supakar, Shri
Tangamani, Shri
Vajpayee, Shri
Verma, Shri Ramji

NOES

Abdur Raahid, Bakshi
Achal Singh, Seth
Achar, Shri
Alva, Shri Joachum
Ambalam, Shri Subbuh
Aujanappa, Shri
Arumugham, Shri R. S.
Arumugham, Shri S. R.
Ashanna, Shri
Bahadur Singh, Shri
Bakliwal, Shri
Benerji, Shri P. B.
Barman, Shri
Basappa, Shri
Besumatar, Shri
Bhagat, Shri B. R.
Bhagavati, Shri
Bhakt Derehan, Shri
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das
Bhattacharyya, Shri C. K.
Birbal Singh, Shri
Borooah, Shri P. C.

Bose, Shri
Brahm Perikash, Ch.
Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri
Chandra Shanker, Shri
Chaturvedi, Shri
Chuni Lal, Shri
Das, Shri Shree Narayan
Dasappa, Shri
Desai, Shri Morarji
Dindod, Shri
Dube, Shri Mulchand
Geekwad, Shri Fatesingh rao
Ganapathy, Shri
Gandhi, Shri M. M.
Ghare, Shri A. V.
Ghosh, Shri M. K.
Ghosh, Shri N. R.
Govind Das, Seth
Hajernavis, Shri
Harvan, Shri Ansar
Hansda, Shri Subodh
Hansrika, Shri J. N.

Heda, Shri
Hukam Singh, Sardar
Jagivan Ram, Shri
Jain, Shri A. P.
Jain, Shri M. C.
Jangde, Shri
Jhulan Sunha, Shri
Jmchandran, Shri
Jogendra Sen, Shri
Jogendra Singh, Sardar
Joshi, Shri A. C.
Kalika Singh, Shri
Karmarkar, Shri
Kotaki, Shri Liladhar
Kodaria, Shri C. M.
Keshava, Shri
Khan, Shri Sadath Ali
Khan, Shri Shahnewaz
Kottukapally, Shri
Krishna Chandra, Shri
Krishnappe, Shri M. V.
Lachman Singh, Shri

NOES—contd.

Mefta Ahmed, Shrimati
Maiti, Shri N. B.
Majitha, Sardar
Malaviya, Pandit Govind
Malviya, Shri K. D.
Malviya, Shri Motilal
Mansan, Shri
Maniyanganad, Shri
Mathur, Shri M. D.
Mehta, Shri B. G.
Mehta, Shri J. R.
Mehta, Shrimati Krishna
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Mishra, Shri S. N.
Mishra, Shri B. D.
Misra, Shri R. D.
Misra, Shri R. R.
Mohammad Akbar, Shaikh
Mohiuddin, Shri
Morarka, Shri
Munnsamy, Shri N. R.
Murthy, Shri B. S.
Murti, Shri M. S.
Nadar, Shri Thanulingam
Nair, Shri C. K.
Naldurgker, Shri
Nallakoya, Shri
Narasimhan, Shri
Narayanasamy, Shri R.
Nayar, Dr. Sushila
Nehru, Shrimati Uma
Neswi, Shri

Oza, Shri
Padalu, Shri K. V.
Palaniyandy, Shri
Pande, Shri C. D.
Pandey, Shri K. N.
Panna Lal, Shri
Patel, Shri N. N.
Patel, Sushri Maniben
Pattabhi Raman, Shri
Radha Ramon, Shri
Raghuramaiah, Shri
Rahman, Shri M. H.
Raj Bahadur, Shri
Ram Saran, Shri
Ramakrishnan, Shri P. R.
Ramaswami, Shri S. V.
Ramaswamy, Shri K. S.
Rameshwar Rao, Shri
Ranbir Singh, Ch.
Ranga, Shri
Rangarao, Shri
Reddy, Shri K. C.
Reddy, Shri Narapa
Reddy, Shri R. L.
Reddy, Shri Ramu
Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Rungsung Suisa, Shri
Sahu, Shri Rameshwar
Sargal, Sardar A. S.
Samanta, Shri S. C.
Satyanarayana, Shri
Sen, Shri P. G.

Shah, Shrimati Jaysben
Shankaraiya, Shri
Sharma, Shri D. C.
Siddananajappa, Shri
Siddiah, Shri
Singh, Shri D. N.
Singh, Shri D. P.
Singh, Shri T. N.
Sinha, Gajendra Prasad
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Snatak, Shri Nardeo
Sonawane, Shri
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subramanyam, Shri T.
Sumat Prasad, Shri
Swaran Singh, Sardar
Tahir, Shri Mohammed
Tariq, Shri A. M.
Thirumala Rao, Shri
Thomas, Shri A. M.
Tiwary, Pandit D. N.
Tyagi, Shri
Upadhyay, Pandit Munishwar Dutt
Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Datt
Varma, Shri B. B.
Varma, Shri M. L.
Venkatasubbaiah, Shri
Vyas, Shri Radheal
Wadwa, Shri
Wanuk, Shri Balkrishn
Wodeyar, Shri

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The other adjournment motions are all barred.

respect of working journalists and for matters connected therewith be taken into consideration."

18.35 hrs.

WORKING JOURNALISTS (FIXATION OF RATES OF WAGES) BILL

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Sir, I beg to move†:

"That the Bill to provide for the fixation of rates of wages in "

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may continue tomorrow.

18.36 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 19th August, 1958.

†Moved with the recommendation of the President.