

Construction of Kerala Newsprint Project

895. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made with regard to the construction of the Kerala Newsprint Project;

(b) what is the amount spent so far on the Project;

(c) whether the Project is expected to be completed within the scheduled time; and

(d) what are the names of the foreign countries which are assisting in setting up the Project and what is the nature of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) The Hindustan Paper Corporation has taken possession of the land and site levelling is almost complete. Arrangements for supply of raw materials and other infra-structural facilities have been made. Foreign consultants have been appointed and their experts are already posted in India for carrying out the basic designing and supervising the detailed engineering of the project. Indian Consultants have been appointed for carrying out the detailed engineering of the project. Construction of godown and temporary office building are complete. Railway siding work is in progress. The construction of main and auxiliary buildings will commence in September immediately after the monsoon. A Project office has already started functioning and the General Manager and other staff are stationed at the site. Orders for, long delivery items like paper machine, power boilers, recovery boiler etc. have been placed.

(b) Rs. 613 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir. 'J'. 'I' ; I

(d) The Government of West Germany through their aid giving agency KFW have been approached for a loan to finance purchase of the machinery and equipment required for the project from West Germany. The loan to be made available from that source is under finalisation. After the purchases of other imported items required for the project are finalised, some other countries from where the items would be imported may be approached to cover the purchases, through bilateral credits.

Pandiyar Punnapuzha Hydro-electric Project

896. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has examined the project report in respect of the Pandiyar Punnapuzha Hydro Electric Project submitted by the Kerala Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The project report in respect of the Kerala Pandiyar-Punnapuzha Hydro-Electric Scheme sent by the Government of Kerala was examined in the Central Electricity Authority/ Central Water Commission and comments on various aspects of the scheme communicated to the project authorities in June, 1975. Subsequently, the estimates of cost and energy potential of the scheme were revised by the project authorities in December, 1975 in the light of the comments of the Central Electricity Authority/ Central Water Commission. The replies of the project authorities to the comments have been examined and their replies to certain points raised with them in March and June, 1976 on planning aspects, design features and estimates of cost are awaited.