

is that there has been less of procedural delays regarding this matter and more of co-operation from the Ministries of Finance and Industry, which is absent with regard to this project. Is there any basis for this impression?

DR. K. L. RAO : There is no basis for such an impression.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question hour is over.

12 NOON

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

NAGARJUNASAGAR PROJECT—STAGE II

5. SHRI M. M. DHARIA :†

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN :

SHRI S. B. BOBDEY :

SHRI G. R. PATIL :

SHRI B. S. SAVNEKAR :

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA
SATHE :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the scope of the Nagarjunasagar Stage II Project in (i) irrigation and (ii) power;

(b) the additional quantity of water required for irrigation and power; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Spillway crest gates required as a part in the power project are at present ordered to be fabricated?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) :
(a) and (b) No proposals for Stage II have been received from the State Government.

(c) No report has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh about placing orders for fabrication of crest gates. They have, however, reported that spillway crest gates are required for utilising the approved quantity of water for the first phase of the project.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Is it a fact that the height of the dam has been increased, the gates have been widened for more discharge of water and the canals have been

broadened to carry forward the extra discharge of water from the dam?

DR. K. L. RAO : The Andhra Pradesh Government states that the gates are required in order to utilise the approved quantity of water. It is so because for corresponding projects like Bhima and Verna the live storage allowed is 14 T.M.C. for 1 lakh acres. In Nagarjunasagar even with the gates it will be only 7 T.M.C. for 1 lakh acres. Obviously without gates it will be much less. Therefore, they apprehend that it is not possible to carry on without gates.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : The hon. Minister may be aware that the discussions regarding the distribution of waters from the Krishna and Godavari are yet pending. It is yet to be finalised. May we know whether, because of this extension activity of the Nagarjunasagar dam, it will not affect the results that are likely to be achieved in those discussions, whether the Government has considered the after effects while allowing this additional discharge of water?

DR. K. L. RAO : This project was sanctioned in 1956 and it was started in 1956 and we will see that the amount of water allotted, namely, 264 T.M.C. is not exceeded.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Will the hon. Minister assure this House that while this dam is under construction there will be no ill-feeling? But the point is that States like Maharashtra, Mysore, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are the States having an irrigation of less than 10 per cent. So why are these projects being accepted or sanctioned by the Government? Will the hon. Minister assure us that no harm will be caused to the further discussions or the results that are likely to be achieved by the Government? Is it also true that there are some interested parties having their own say in the matter? Will the hon. Minister assure the House? I want an assurance from the Minister concerned.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : These matters have been brought to my notice, and I can assure the hon. Member that no further action will be taken till the matter pending before us for settlement has been disposed of.

MISS MARY NAIDU : May I know what the storage of water is that is allowed for 1 lakh of acres for Nagarjunasagar as in the case of project like Bhima?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. M. Dharia.

DR. K. L. RAO : I am afraid I have stated this in the course of supplementary answers earlier. The water that will be allowed even when the gates are put in will be only of the order of half the quantity that we have allowed in the case of Bhima and other projects.

SHRI M. V. GOVINDAN NAIR : The people in Kerala are heavily dependent on Andhra for rice. Will the Government take steps to see that all help is given for the completion of Nagarjunasagar and not let all these difficulties of foreign exchange come in the way ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I am sorry, I could not follow.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR : The people of Kerala are heavily dependent on Andhra for rice. We are more keen than the people of Andhra about the completion of Nagarjunasagar. So we ask whether the Government will take steps to see that the difficulties of foreign exchange do not come in the way of completion of the scheme.

DR. K. L. RAO : It is a suggestion.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : May I know whether the works are being stopped in view of the paucity of funds despite the fact that the Andhra Pradesh Government has sought an assistance of Rs. 12 crores ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that the amount of money allotted this year for the Nagarjunasagar project is less than what is capable of being spent. The Andhra Pradesh Government has asked for extra funds, and it is under consideration.

SHRI G. M. MIR : I would like to know the original estimate of the whole project and what was the compelling reason for the Department to revise the estimate of this project, because there is a genuine concern expressed by the hon. Member. Secondly, I would like to know why the estimate has been revised and what is the revised amount.

DR. K. L. RAO : The original project sanction was Rs. 91 crores and the project has been revised to accommodate the increased cost of materials. I may add that there has been no extension of the scope of the project.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : I would like to know whether in view of the im-

portance of the project the Government is now proposing to take over such a big project all by themselves and execute the same on their own instead of leaving it to the State which takes longer time for completion of this important project.

DR. K. L. RAO : The hon. Minister has said a number of times on previous occasions that in order to accelerate the completion of these big projects there is under consideration a proposal to centrally finance some of these selected projects, and in some cases where technical assistance is also required they are trying to take over the project for execution.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : In view of the importance of the project, will the hon. Minister say that no difficulty, whether it is foreign exchange or whether it is some of the differences between the States, will be allowed to stand in the way of the progress of this project so that we will get more food according to plan ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is a project which had been started ten years back and whatever the difficulties or controversies they have arisen only for the last four or five years. A sum of Rs. 110 crores has been spent so far and naturally the nation cannot afford to go slow with this project.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE : May I know whether, if the estimates are revised, some more money will be given in respect of other irrigation schemes in the country ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sorry, I could not follow.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE : There was the question of estimates being revised. I would like to know whether in some parts of the country such estimates are revised and more money is given ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Yes, Sir. Estimates are revised from time to time.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : With your permission, may I put one question ? I entirely agree that our food production campaign should not be hampered but is it not a fact that if these irrigation facilities are given to Mysore and Maharashtra, the same

food production can be increased in these two States ?

Dr. K. L. RAO : Sir, I may submit that in Maharashtra the number of projects that have been sanctioned is the maximum in the Third Five Year Plan and it will be very good if the hon. Member sees to the implementation of these projects. Thereby the percentage of irrigation potential in Maharashtra will increase from 9.6 to 14.8 as against 23.6 which represents the ultimate possible irrigation potential in Maharashtra. It is not a question that we can compare straightway one State with any other. Some States have favourable features for more irrigation than others. Thus, Uttar Pradesh has a high degree of potential than Maharashtra for irrigation. There are other States like that. Obviously, as the hon. Member may be aware, wherever we provide water in this country for irrigation, we can produce food. As against 29 crores of acres that we have under food crops, only six crores of acres are being supplied with irrigation water and obviously, when more of land is brought under irrigation, more food will be produced, irrespective of the States.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MEHRAULI ROAD, NEW DELHI

*732. **SHRI I. K. GUJRAL :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated cost of widening and street-light improvement of Mehrauli Road in New Delhi;

(b) how much money has been spent up-to-date on this project; and

(c) which is the executing agency for this project and what is the time-schedule for completion of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR) : (a) On the basis of the plans and estimates received from the Delhi Administration in August, 1964, administrative approval of the Government of India was accorded on the 18th February, 1965, to the widening of the Mehrauli Road and construction of an under-bridge in place of the existing railway crossing near Safdarjung aerodrome at an estimated cost of Rs. 87.58 lakhs.

(b) Rs. 16,68,163 up to June 1966.

(c) The works relating to widening of the Mehrauli Road and construction of an under-bridge in place of the existing railway crossing are being executed by various agencies e.g., New Delhi Municipal Committee, Railways, P. & T. Deptt. and C.P.W.D. The overall co-ordination is being done by the N.D.M.C.

A statement showing the present state of the progress of the various works and the expected dates of their completion is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Item of work of the Project	Remarks
1	Widening of Mehrauli Road from Prithviraj Road junction to start of dip.	This is complete except for one lane which could not be fully widened in a length of about 80' due to a temple coming in the alignment. The Delhi Administration is taking action to remove it early.
2	Widening of Mehrauli Road from Ring Road junction to the point of its dip.	An electrical sub-station falling in the alignment is expected to be removed in about 6 months' time. The work has otherwise been completed.
3	Construction of diversion road	Completed.
4	Widening of Karbala Culvert	Completed.
5	Shifting of compound walls	Completed.