

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : I will put just one question—my third question, Sir. The Government professes to follow Gandhian philosophy and ideology. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that on the 3rd September, that is to say on the 3rd of this month, the President of the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen along with his lieutenants in all the cities of India started a 24-hour fast and prayer in order to change the heart of the Government so that the Government may change the terms of reference of this D.A. Commission ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Sir, I could not follow the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What was the question ? Was it an announcement or a question ?

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : They wanted a change of heart on the part of the Government, Sir.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : Sir, the Deputy Home Minister wanted to know which recommendation they had accepted and not implemented. I may point out to him that the present all-India cost of living index is 185. May I know from him what is the dearness allowance due to the Central Government employees according to the number 185, as per the Pay Commission's recommendation, and how much they are being paid now ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Sir, dearness allowance rates were revised only in December of last year and after that this Commission has come into being. We will have to wait for the recommendation of this Commission.

*825. [The questioner (Shri Jagat Narain) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 5958-59 infra]

ASSISTANCE FOR NAGARJUNASAGAR PROJECT

*826. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for an assistance of Rs. 12 crores for the construction of Nagarjunasagar Project;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government; and

(c) whether the work of the project is being stopped for paucity of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : May I know what are the works still remaining to be completed and how much money will be required for them to be completed ? Also may I know when the project was started and when it is likely to be completed ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Sir, the money that will be required is about Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 crores. Work on the project was started in 1956 and it is very likely to be completed before the end of the Fourth Plan.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : In view of the food shortage in the country, what special steps have the Government taken to reap the benefits from this project immediately ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that this project will go a long way to reduce the food shortage. Government will do its best to see that the benefits from this project are obtained as early as possible.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : May I know from the hon. Minister whether this project is in an advanced stage of construction ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Quite so, Sir.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : The hon. Minister stated that the work has not stopped. But is it not a fact that water has started flowing and there are no canals to take the water to the fields ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that the water has just now started flowing into the canals. On the canals some work has been done, but a lot of work has to be done on the canals.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Question Hour is over.