

cause for such undue delay in the construction of the Canal; and

(c) what is the estimated expenditure, and the amount actually spent so far on the construction of the Canal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In 1950-51, the State Government estimated that an expenditure of Rs. 26.39 lakhs would be incurred on this Project. The actual expenditure reported by them to the end of September, 1960 was Rs. 26.42 lakhs.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

STUDY TEAM OF OFFICIALS ON THE WORKING OF PANCHAYATS IN STATES

*65. SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of officials of the Central Government visited different States to study the working of "Panchayats" in those States;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, who were the members of this team and which States were visited by them;

(c) whether the team has submitted any report to Government;

(d) if so, whether it will be made available to the Members of Parliament; and

(e) if no report has been submitted so far, when it is likely to be submitted?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

REPORT OF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE REGARDING FIRE AT RAILWAY TIMBER DEPOT AT NAWADAH

*66. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 176 in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to enquire into the incident of fire in the Railway timber depot at Nawadah has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The findings are given in the Statement placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Findings of the Enquiry Committee regarding fire at Nawadah on the Gaya-Kiul Section, Eastern Railway.

We, the undersigned, after having carefully gone through all the evidences and other documents and after visiting the site of Accident do find—

1. That a fire broke out on the sleepers stacks that were stored outside the Permanent Way Inspector's stores yard at Nawadah on the midnight of 26/27-3-1961.

2. That a total of 2,577 sleepers were completely burnt out of 2,742 sleepers which were involved in the fire and 135 sleepers were saved intact and 30 sleepers were salvaged in partly burnt condition.

3. That the fire was not caused due to falling of live spark from the passing engine.

4. That the fire was caused due to miscreant activity by some unknown person.