

improved by patch doubling. These master charts are being examined and then the decision will be taken.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether it will begin from Jubbulpore or from Itar'si or from midway?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: It may begin midway or at either end.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES UNDER SUSPENSION ON THE CENTRAL RAILWAY

*432. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of railway employees on the Central Railway who are under suspension for more than four months against whom a departmental enquiry is going on or has been instituted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): 39 as on 31st October, 1960.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, what is the reason for this delay, when there is a specific standing order that in respect of those who are under suspension, their suspension period will not be more than three months or about three months?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The orders are that if a person continues under suspension for over four months, the order of the higher authority will be obtained. That is the order on the subject. There are sometimes very complicated cases in which witnesses are not coming forward, complicated cases of theft, etc., and they may take some time.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether the Minister is aware of the period, because I have asked only about cases of more than four months? May I know whether he has any data where the suspension period is more than a year or so? Has the Government got that data also?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: As I said, in complicated cases it may be even longer than four months.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know, Sir, the reason why all these people are under suspension?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Different irregularities and cases like thefts, serious misconduct, assault, misappropriation, corruption, unauthorised occupation, etc.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Which of these cases are supposed to be complicated ones, as he said?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, what is the question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He asks: Is theft a complicated one? Is disobedience of orders a complicated one? Is irregularity a complicated one? That is what you want to know?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When they are all mixed up, they become complicated.

WEST COAST NATIONAL HIGHWAY

*433. SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position regarding the construction of the West Coast National Highway;

(b) how many bridges are yet to be constructed; and

(c) when the highway is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE in THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Work on the West Coast Road, which is not a National Highway, is in full-swing. Against the total estimated cost of Rs. 11-64 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 253-39 lakhs was incurred up to the end of 1959-60. An expenditure of Rs. 120 lakhs is likely to be incurred during the current year.

(b) Forty-five, out of which 18 are in progress.

(c) The road is likely to be completed in all respects by the end of the Third Plan.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Is the hon. Minister aware that at the rate at which it is proceeding, they may go up to the Fifth or the Sixth Plan?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I agree that to begin with, in the course of the First Plan period, the expenditure on the work was not quite up to the mark. It was only Rs. 30-82 lakhs. But in the Second Plan and in the last four years sufficient momentum seems to have been gathered and this year we are going to spend as much as one crore and twenty lakh rupees. When it gets better momentum, the progress would be shown and maintained.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether the Kerala Government has submitted the estimate for seven bridges in the Kasaragod division, and if so, at what stage does it remain?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: In regard to Kerala we have already completed eight bridges and five are in progress.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether they have submitted fresh proposals for the construction of bridges in the Kasaragod division?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: About Kasaragod, I cannot say exactly.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: It is in Kerala, that particular division.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I know it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not got that information.

SHRI M. M. MEHTA: May I know, Sir, when the National Highway between Kandla and Ahmedabad, including the bridge over the Rann of Cutch, is to be completed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are now considering the West Coast. We cannot go to other areas. Next question.

BHAKRA DAM PROJECT

•434. SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the date by which the Bhakra Dam project is expected to be completed; and

(b) what is the estimated final cost of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI):

(a) The concreting of the Dam is expected to be completed by December, 1961. The remaining work *i.e.*, the construction of a bridge over the spillway, elevator tower, parapets, approaches, installation of Radial Gates will continue up to the end of 1962. The work of drilling and grouting may continue for some time more to ensure water tightness of the rock.

(b) The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 170 crores.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, whether the canal system also will be completed along with the completion of this work?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: They are already completed.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, if the estimate as announced by the Minister is final or it is still tentative?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: It may have to be revised.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, the original estimate with which the work was started and the estimate at which the Minister expects the works to be completed, when all the stages are over?