

### CONSTRUCTION OF 'K. C. CANAL' IN ANDHRA PRADESH

\*258. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 701 in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd September, 1958 and state whether the report on the construction of 'K.C. Canal' in Andhra Pradesh has been examined and if so, what are the conclusions arrived at and what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): The Report has been examined. The results of the analysis of the samples of concrete lining conducted in the laboratory of the Central Water and Power Commission have shown that the concrete mixed in lining is not such as to arouse suspicion of any malpractice. Attention of the State Government has been drawn to the importance of early completion of the distribution system to utilise the increased supply of water provided by the remodelling of the 'K. C. Canal'.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: If that is the case, may I know, Sir, why there is wide-scale cracking of the lining and abutments in the 'K.C. Canal' and what is it attributed to?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: A complaint was received to the effect. We, therefore, sent an officer from the Central Water and Power Commission who brought the samples. They were examined here in the laboratory. The results indicate that the proportion of the cement to sand and the aggregate does not vary much. For the information of the hon. Member I may say that the exact average of the sample of cement in aggregate brought here was found to be 1.405 instead of 1.4 and for the sand 1.708 instead of 1.8 in aggregate. So, there was not much difference in its proportion.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Is it not a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Assembly

have very sharply criticised that the contractors had almost swallowed the whole of the cement and they had put only 1 per cent. of the cement that is needed for this purpose?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: But that is the proportion used in the sample that has been checked here.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Are we to understand that the results of the examinations made by the Andhra Pradesh Government and the C.W.P.C. are at variance?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: So far as the experiments are concerned, they were sample checks of the use of the cement in a particular specimen that was brought here.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, whether the samples are actually samples of those places where the cracks had occurred and not of those places where it was intact?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I think it was brought from that particular place.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: But the hon. Minister should have made sure that the samples are brought from that area where large-scale cracking has taken place and lakhs of rupees of public money have been wasted. Has it been seen that the samples are brought from that particular place?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I cannot clarify but generally it should have been taken from those places where the defects were shown.

### POCHAMPAD PROJECT

\*259. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether any report on Pochampad Project has been received by the Centre from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and if so, what are the details of this Project and what action has been taken on the report?