

that an officer in charge of a Subdivision would be a better officer to co-ordinate the activities of the various departments of development projects. If such an officer is the head of a project, then it will be easier for him to co-ordinate the various activities. Of course, there are Supervisors and Village Workers, etc., but an officer of this type would be in a better position to co-ordinate the various development activities. That was the idea.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What is the present position? Is it not the present position that most of the Project Officers are not Sub-divisional Officers and it is only now that you want to change over from those officers, who are exclusively Project Officers, to Sub-divisional Officers?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The present position is that only in a very few cases these Project Officers are also Divisional Officers or Sub-divisional Officers, but it would be better to have the District Officer to be in charge of development activities, and if necessary, you can have another man to relieve him from his other duties.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it the intention of the Government to shift the emphasis from popular support to official support?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No, certainly not.

PROF. G. RANGA: Was it not the policy of the Government as has been laid down or conceived by the Planning Commission as well as by Mr. Dey that the advantage of having a Revenue Divisional Officer in charge of projects in order to make use of his experience, could be obtained by requesting the District Magistrate to be the Chairman of the Committee that is appointed to assist the Project Officer?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The Project Advisory Committees have in fact the District Collectors concerned as their Chairman, but this is about Sub-divisional Officers below the Collector.

And they are revenue officers, I believe.

#### INCREASE IN THE ESTIMATES OF HIRAKUD PROJECT

•471. SHRI R. BISWASROY: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Control Board of Hirakud at its recent meeting approved the Chief Engineer's suggestion for enhancing the rates and increasing the estimates on Hirakud Project; and

(b) if so, whether he will lay on the Table of the Council a copy of the old schedule of rates and the previous estimates compared with the corresponding figures approved by the Control Board at its meeting held on the 10th and the 11th November 1953?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) and (b). At its meeting held on the 10th and 11th November 1953, the Hirakud Control Board approved the revised project estimate prepared by the Chief Engineer which indicated an increase to the extent of about Rs. 3.35 crores after omitting Lift Irrigation. The estimate is under the consideration of Government.

Increase in rates was only in regard to concreting, drilling and grouting. There is no schedule of rate for concreting work as this is done de-partmentally by the mechanised system of operations. The figures in the previous estimate and in the revised estimate are:-

Mass concreting—

Previous	estimate—Rs.	146-10-0
		per 100 c. ft.
Revised	estimate—Rs.	193-0-0
		per 100 c. ft.
Drilling low pressure holes—		
Previous	estimate—Rs.	6-11-0
		per ft.
Revised	estimate—Rs.	7-13-0
		per ft.

Grouting low pressure holes—

Previous	estimate—Rs.	9-13-0
		per ft.
Revised	estimate—Rs.	10-12-0
		per ft.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Has the Government been informed of the reasons for enhancing the estimates?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The reasons for enhancing the estimates are the rise in the rates so far as concreting, drilling and grouting are concerned, and the purchase of special tools.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: The rates have been increased. Has the cost of labour also been increased?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The increase is in so far as the cost of concreting is concerned. Naturally there must have been some rise.

#### PASSPORT FOR TRAVEL ABROAD

\*472. DR. ANUP SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have been refused passports for travel abroad since 1952; and

(b) the procedure followed for the issue of a passport?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House" when ready.

(b) An applicant is required to complete the prescribed application form and submit it to his district authorities or to the State Government as the case may be. The State Government, after verifying the bona fides of the applicant, either issue or refuse the passport. It is the State Government who normally have full discretion in this matter. In some cases, however, the State Government consult the Central Government, forwarding their recommendations. The Central Government

normally accept the State Government's advice or recommendations. It is always open to an applicant, who has been refused a passport by a State Government, to appeal to the Government of India.

DR. ANUP SINGH: Is the Government aware that in most cases there have been delays which are exasperating? I know of many cases where people have been shunted about between the Capital of a particular State and Delhi. When they go to the Capital of the State they say, "You should consult the Centre". When they come to the Centre, it is said that it is entirely up to the State. Is the Government aware that the machinery is not obviously running very smoothly and there have been many complaints on the part of the applicants that they are harassed and made to run about before they get an answer from any quarter?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That is a general statement. If specific cases are mentioned, action could be taken.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Is the Central Government not authorised to issue passports without reference to the State Governments?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Usually the application is made to the State Government and there are 28 passport authorities in the country. Only when there are cases of difficulties is the matter referred to the Central Government or the Centre intervenes.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: It means that the Central Government can issue?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Valiulla.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In how many cases did the State Governments consult the Central Government?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I require notice.