

the U.S.S.R. had to consult the American engineers when they had to build large dams.

(Several hon. Members interrupted.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more questions. We have had enough.

(Shri S. Mahanty stood up.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, sit down, Mr. Mahanty. Next question.

TRACTORS PURCHASED FOR HIRAKUD DAM

*505. SHRI B. RATH: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tractors in the possession of the dam construction sections at Hirakud up to the end of 1st March 1952;

(b) the number and type of the tractors which were purchased during the year 1952-53;

(c) the sources from which these tractors were obtained;

(d) the price that was paid for each of these tractors; and

(e) the companies from which they were obtained?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) 97.

(b) 36.

(c) to (e). A statement giving the particulars required is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 124.]

SHRI B. RATH: What is the total amount of work that was done by the 97 tractors in connection with the Hirakud Dam Project?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Sir, I will require notice to ascertain the total amount of work done by the tractors.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: How far is the hon. Minister capable of judging the total amount of work done by a tractor?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Go on Mr. Rath. The Minister says that he wants notice for that question.

SHRI B. RATH: What was the reason for the purchase of 36 tractors in the year 1952-53?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Because they were required for the purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 'Because they were required for the purpose'.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it in connection with the construction of the right side dam that they found it necessary to buy this and, what is the total amount of work that has been done during this year?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: As I said, Sir, I will have to find out the actual work done with a tractor and I will have to total it up.

SHRI B. RATH: I refer to the Budget and the Progress Report of the Hirakud Dam. Is it a fact that these tractors were purchased and that they did absolutely no work on the right side during the year for which they were purchased?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: They might have done some work somewhere else; I do not know.

SHRI B. RATH: But these were exclusively purchased for the right side dam.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Maybe, Sir; with the addition of these works, they might have been required but before the work commenced they might have worked somewhere else.

SHRI B. RATH: Sir, is it a fact that most of the work was being done by manual labour through contractors?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Not most, but work was done by contractors also.

SHRI B. RATH: To what extent the tractors did the work and to what extent the contractors did the work?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That is no* possible for me to reply off-hand.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that these tractors were lying in the workshops and were constantly under repair and had not done the maximum amount of work that they ought to have done during the year 1952-53 and even earlier?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That is not my information.

PROF. G. RANGA: May I know, Sir, whether anybody is making a check up at all?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes.

(Interruption by Shri B. Rath.)

PROF. G. RANGA: From the answers that my hon. friend has been giving, it looks as if the Government is not having any check up at all as to whether these things are being worked at all. Here is a specific question, and if you kindly look into the answers he has been giving, they are most unsatisfactory.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Sir, a check up is there. Log books are being maintained, hours of work are maintained and they are checked. At present, I have not got the information with me. It is a minor matter.

PROF. G. RANGA: Whether these tractors were being put to that much of use as they are capable of was the question that was put by my hon. friend. Now, the hon. Minister ought to be able to assure himself first of all whether any use is being made of these tractors.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That is what I said. I will look into the matter and find out how much work has been done by each tractor.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that Rs. 44 lakhs has been spent for the purchase of these tractors, and does the Government consider that this is a minor matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

ENGINES USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
HIRAKUD DAM

•506. SHRI B. RATH: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of narrow gauge and broad gauge engines and wagons used on the construction of the Hirakud Dam Project up to the end of 1952-53;

(b) what are the sources from which these were obtained; and

(c) what was the price paid for each?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 125.]

SHRI B. RATH: What were the broad gauge engines that were purchased last year?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The statement gives the total number of engines purchased but I have not got the breakup as to each year.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Sir, that is rather unsatisfactory.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that last year an amount of Rs. 5,20,000 was budgeted for the purchase of 8 engines?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: It was budgeted for, but I don't think all have been purchased.

SHRI B. RATH: How many have been purchased and at what cost?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I will look into it and let the hon. Member know.

SHRI B. RATH: Will the hon. Minister please say which of these engines have been purchased at a cost of Rs. 65,000 each?