

MR. CHAIRMAN: Wait, he has not finished.

SHRI B. RATH: What are the improvements that are being undertaken at the Cuttack transmitting station in order to increase the range and by how much will the range be increased?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I will not be able to say by how much but in view of the fact that we will not be able to increase the transmitter power for the time being, we are trying to see how we can improve the capacity of the transmitter even with the present power that it has and I cannot say by how much the power would be increased but, I am sure it will improve considerably.

SHRI B. RATH: Am I to understand, Sir, that research is being undertaken now to improve it?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. RATH: May I know what period will be taken to.....

MR. CHAIRMAN:.....to complete the research?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Very quickly, Sir.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it not a fact that the development of a particular radio station is conditioned by the number of listeners or the number of radio sets obtaining in a particular area?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Well, Sir, that is probably one of the factors that has to be taken into consideration but that alone cannot be a deciding factor and, if my hon. friend so desires, I might furnish him with what we had circulated last year to Members as an introduction to our Five Year Development Plan, the various factors which have to be taken into consideration in giving priority to various transmitter stations.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: How long has this transmitter been working?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't want him to answer this question?

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: "How long has the transmitter been working at Cuttack?" Ever since the station was established.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: It was established, Sir, on 20th January 1948.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that when this radio station was installed in Cuttack, it was published on good authority that very soon they were going to substitute this small powered transmitter with a high powered one?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Well, Sir, I don't know the 'good authority' that my friend is quoting but we would certainly like to increase the power of not only the Cuttack but the other transmitters of one k.w. which are really considered to be pilot stations.

*274 & *275. [The questioner (Shri B. Gupta) was absent.]

IMPLEMENTATION OF KRISHNA PROJECTS

*276. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state whether Government have given any instructions to the Governments of Madras and Hyderabad to start investigations in respect of Krishna projects so that they may be completed within the 5 years' period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): Yes, Sir. Instructions have been given for further investigation in regard to the Krishna projects but until investigations are completed it is not possible to say anything further.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Central Government take up the Krishna Valley Project for execution jointly with State Governments or separately like the Bhakra-Nangal etc., projects?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That can be considered only when the investigations are over.