

कि बीच-बचाव के लिये विश्व बैंक को सौंपा गया था, कोई अन्तिम समझौता हो गया है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो बातचीत का वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ?

**सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटील) :** (क) और (ख) भारत और पाकिस्तान नहरों पानी विवाद के बारे में अभी कोई अन्तिम समझौता नहीं हुआ है। विश्व बैंक के सुझाव पर भारत और पाकिस्तान की सरकारें बैंक के सहयोग से किये जाने वाले सहकारी कार्य का समय ६ महीने, यानी ३० सितम्बर, १९५७ तक, और बढ़ाने के लिये सहमत हो गई है।

नहरी पानी विवाद बैंक का बीच-बचाव के लिये नहीं सौंपा गया है। बैंक ने अपनी सेवाएँ दोनों सरकारों को केवल इमलिये दौं हैं कि उन्हें आपस में समझौता करने में सहायता मिल सके।

#### National Construction Corporation

**Shri L. N. Mishra:**

**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Construction Corporation has submitted any blue-print as regards its programme to Government;

(b) whether the Corporation has taken up any of the River Valley Projects for execution; and

(c) if so, the name of the project and the conditions under which it is working?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) The Corporation has been set up for the execution of such projects or project works as are entrusted to it by the

State Governments. The question of preparing a blue-print of its programme, in advance does not arise.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Construction of two aqueducts at estimated rates plus 15% for overheads and excavation of 7 miles of canal at schedule of rates within Rajasthan territory and excavation of 5 miles of canal at the schedule of rates within Madhya Pradesh territory, on the Chambal Project Canal System. The Corporation is working on the same conditions as are applicable to other contractors on the Chambal Project.

#### Postage on Books

\*49. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 149 on the 19th November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether Government have since completed consideration of the report of the Committee set up to increase the rate of postage on books; and

(b) if so, what is the decision taken thereon?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The Committee was set up to recommend to Government, *inter alia*, the rates of postage to be prescribed for the transmission of 'Books' in the inland post, as distinguished from other matter that may be allowed transmission at book packet rates. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by Government and their decision would be announced soon.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Madras Port

\*50. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of Madras port

and to what extent it falls short of the demand:

(b) how long the ships have to wait outside to obtain a berth; and

(c) the steps that are being taken to expand the port?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The optimum handling capacity of the Port of Madras is of the order of 1.75 million tons per year but the Port has been required to handle as much as 2 to 2½ million tons per year ever since 1950. Though the Port has been working on three shifts to handle this additional cargo beyond its capacity, certain amount of delay to ships has been inevitable.

(b) The waiting period of ships to obtain a berth varies from time to time. For example, in the first 28 days of April, 1957, the total waiting period for 32 ships which waited for berths was 100 days or an average of 3.1 days per ship.

(c) A project for increasing the number of quay berths from 9 to 17 has been sanctioned. The construction of two of these berths is in progress.

#### **Ramagundam-Nizamabad Rail Link**

\*51. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 18 on the 20th March, 1957 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to carry out final location survey for the Ramagundam-Nizamabad rail link;

(b) if not the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether the Railway Board contemplates giving any priority for this rail-link in view of the fact that it is a part of the direct link between Vizagapatam and Bombay Ports?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No Sir.

(b) Ramagundam-Nizamabad line forms part of Latur-Ramagundam Project, final Location Survey for which was carried out during 1945-46. Hence no fresh Engineering Survey is necessary. The costs are, however, being brought up to date.

(c) No Sir. This line is not included in Railways 2nd Five Year Plan.

#### **Canal Water Dues from Pakistan**

\*52. { **Shri Bahadur Singh:**  
**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**  
**D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Damar:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have reminded the Pakistan Government of the non-payment of Canal water dues;

(b) the number of quarters for which the Pakistan Government has not paid for water drawn under the 1948 agreement;

(c) the total amount of non-payment dues; and

(d) the amount Pakistan owed up to the 31st March, 1957 under the "disputed head" and the "undisputed head"?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Payment on account of canal water charges outstanding from Pakistan is for 28 quarters in the case of "disputed" charges and 2 quarters in the case of "undisputed" charges.

(c) The total amount due from Pakistan up to the quarter ending the 30th June, 1957 under "disputed" and "undisputed" is Rs. 81,93,095 and Rs. 18,41,821. respectively.

(d) The canal water charges outstanding from Pakistan as on the 31st March, 1957 under "disputed" and "undisputed" were Rs. 78,38,555/- and Rs. 23,45,071/- respectively.