

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, September 12, 1963 | Bhadra
21, 1885 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Questions.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: No. 629.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): Sir, I suggest that Q. No. 635 may also be taken up along with Q. No. 629. It is on the same subject.

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Berwa there? Well, it may be answered.

Equipment from Soviet Union

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*629. { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Vishram Prasad:

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

(a) whether details have been finalised with Soviet Union for the supply of equipment for power units; and

(b) whether detailed Soviet reports on the Neyveli Thermal Power Station in Madras and the Obra Thermal Power Station in U.P. have been discussed by the experts of his Ministry?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Yes, Sir; details have been finalised in respect of Neyveli Stage I, Korba, Pathratu thermal stations, and Bhakra Right Bank, Mottur Tunnel and Hirakud hydro electric schemes.

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(b) Detailed project reports for Neyveli Stage II and Obra power station have been received. Also technical discussions have been held with Soviet Experts. Prices of the equipment have yet to be settled for which a team of Soviet experts are expected here shortly.

Bhakra Dam

*635. { Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Mate:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:

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

(a) whether Soviet Russia has agreed to supply on credit the entire equipment for the 480,000 K.W. power plant to be constructed on the right bank of Bhakra Dam:

(b) if so, on what terms; and

(c) the progress so far made in the construction of the plant?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) The contract for supply of four power generating units and other equipment and for technical assistance for the Bhakra Right Bank Power Station involving Rs. 5.6 crores in foreign exchange under the Russian credit was signed between the Soviet authorities and the Punjab State Electricity Board on the 3rd July, 1963. The amount of the Loan will be repaid in Indian Rupees by the Government of India within 12 years in equal

instalments. The first instalment for the repayment of the credit shall be payable one year after the completion of deliveries of the equipment, machinery and materials required for putting the Power Station in operation. The interest at the rate of 2½ per cent on the credit will accrue from the date of utilization of corresponding part of the credit and shall be paid during the first three months of each year following the year for which it has accrued. The last payment shall be effected simultaneously with the last instalment for the payment of the principal.

(c) At present civil works for the Power Plant are in an advanced stage and are progressing satisfactorily. The plant and equipment are expected to be delivered in 1964 and 1965. The first unit is expected to be commissioned in 1965-66.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: By what time are the discussions that this Ministry had with the Soviet Union experts are likely to take final shape in the case of these two projects?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As I said, all the technical details have been settled and the machinery is already under manufacture.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: By what time is it likely that the machinery for which an agreement has been entered into will start flowing into our country?

Dr. K. L. Rao: All these projects are Third Plan projects and all the equipment will be coming in as per schedule except for a few plants which are scheduled to come in the first year of the Fourth Plan.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: I want to know, particularly about the Korba Thermal Power Station in U.P., whether only talks are going on with the Russian counterparts or anything has been done actually?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Every detail has been settled except prices and the machines are already under manufac-

ture. In the Third Plan 150 MWs will be installed and in the first year of the Fourth Plan, 100 MWs will come in.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know the amount of foreign exchange involved in these projects and whether it will be rupee payment or some barter agreement also will be there with regard to the exports from here?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There are seven projects. Which projects is he referring to?

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: I want to know the amount of foreign exchange involved in these two projects.

Dr. K. L. Rao: In the case of Neyveli thermal station, extension, Stage II, it is Rs. 7.5 crores and in the case of Korba, it is Rs. 14.5 crores.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know whether the equipment that we are getting from Soviet Union for the Neyveli power station would be specialised for the lignite that we produce there? Will they utilise lignite?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Yes, Sir.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि अगर इस ओबेरा पावर हाउस को हरद्वार हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स के पास लगाया जाता तो कितना खर्चा कम हो जाता ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I am afraid it is too late; the station has been set up.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it not a fact that some negotiations were being carried on with the Soviet Union for the supply of equipment to the Ballimela project, and may I know whether they were done through the State Government or any private company has been entrusted with the task of negotiating with the Soviet Government?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I would suggest that a separate question might be put, but so far as power project is concerned, Ballimela was not considered; negotiations seemed to have been done by State about the construction machinery.