

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: A separate question may be put.

Aid to Famine Stricken District of Andhra Pradesh

*938. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Central Government for financial and other assistance for providing relief to the people in the famine stricken district of Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the amount and nature of assistance given so far?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). This question relates to the Ministry of Finance and the Minister of Finance will reply the same on the day allotted to that Ministry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member also should have been informed like that. We have taken a decision on this matter earlier.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: This has become regular now. It never happened earlier.

Mr. Speaker: I would request hon. Ministers to take note of this. I have requested them already, twice before, to see that when a question has been transferred to another Ministry information should also be sent to the Member concerned. Or at least it should be given to the office and the office could pass it on, if the Ministry cannot do it directly. The hon. Member should know that his question is not being taken up on that particular day. He comes prepared with his question and he is ready to put supplementaries. So, he should know before-hand, if his question has been transferred to another Ministry. I am repeating my request and I hope this will be taken note of.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I submit that we have tabled many questions about the famine-stricken areas, and the Food Ministry knows it, and yet the replies are not forthcoming.

Mr. Speaker: If even now, after my request, replies are not forthcoming, the hon. Member can take objection, and I shall ask both of them to reply. Next question.

Telegraphic Messages by Telephone

*940. **Shri Samnani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experiment of conveying incoming telegraphic messages by telephone to the addressees has been successful;

(b) whether any complaints of delay in conveying these messages have been received, particularly in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the number of such complaints received from 1st January to 31st March, 1962?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, very few.

(c) Three in Delhi.

Railway Line between Sagar and Talguppa

*941. **Shri Mohsin:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board expressed its intention to close the railway line between Sagar and Talguppa in Mysore State, and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Mysore Government have made a strong representation against this and have suggested to extend the line up to Goa?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). In order to minimise the loss on the working of the Sagar-

Talguppa section of the Birur-Talguppa line a suggestion was made by the Railway Board to the Mysore Government for restricting the licensing of passenger buses plying between Sagar and Talguppa. The State Government was also advised that if they could not restrict the licensing of passenger buses, there would be no option left but to close the line to passenger traffic. The State Government agreed to restrict the licensing of passenger buses by cancelling the permits after their expiry. As regards extension of the line from Talguppa to Goa no such suggestion has been received from the State Government.

Shri Mohsin: Now there is a closure of the bus routes, will the Government think of retaining this railway route?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is with a view to that end that we have made this suggestion.

Shri Hanumanthiah: Is the Government aware that Talguppa is very near Sharavati Valley and Jog Falls, which is a tourist centre?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir; we are aware of it.

Kuttiadi and Iduky Hydro-Electric Schemes

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*942. { **Shri Koya:**
Shri A. V. Raghavan:

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

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have urged the Government of India to obtain the sanction of the Planning Commission without further delay for starting the Kuttiadi and Iduky Hydro-Electric schemes;

(b) whether the sanction has been granted; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) Not yet.

(c) During technical examination of the project report and estimate of Kuttiadi Project, it was found that certain clarifications had to be obtained from the project authorities. The information called for is still awaited. As for the Idikki Project, the project report and estimate are being finalised.

Shri Koya: Is it not a fact that the project is delayed because of the delay in giving sanction?

Shri Alagesan: As I said in my answer, in regard to the Kuttiadi project, we are awaiting certain information from the State Government. But in the meanwhile, we have asked them to call for tenders. Preliminary works on the project have commenced and money has been allotted.

Shri Warrior: May I know at what stage is the water controversy in regard to sharing of water between Madras and Kerala?

Shri Alagesan: In regard to the Idikki project, the Madras Government have raised the question of some water being diverted from the reservoir to their State for irrigation purposes in the district of Ramnad. That is under consideration.

Shri M. K. Kumaran: In the note supplied to us in the Consultative Committee, it is stated that many of the projects from the States are being delayed because of defects in the project reports. May I know whether the Government propose to evolve any system or scheme to avoid these delays?

Shri Alagesan: Continuous attempts are being made to avoid all possible delays. Certain *pro forma* etc. are being fixed and information is called for. Even if certain information is lacking and if that can be made easily available in the office of the CWPC itself, that is also being done. But in the case of certain information which is to be supplied by the State Governments, we have to get it.