

this pool or only the western parts of Uttar Pradesh?

**Shri Mehdi:** The whole of U.P. will be included in this.

**Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh:** In view of the long discussions going on between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, will Madhya Pradesh also be taken in this pool?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह तो केवल पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश के लिये है, इसमें मध्य प्रदेश कहाँ से आ गया ?

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** In view of the fact that Jammu and Kashmir are purchasing power from the Punjab, will it also be included in this pool?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim):** The possibilities of benefits which would accrue are being examined. If it is possible, then it may be included; if it is not, it may not be included. Besides, I may tell the House that this sort of grids are being created for the whole of India.

#### Kothagudam Thermal Station

\*1055. **Shrimati Vimla Devi:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the statement made in the House on the 30th April, 1962 regarding shortage of power in Andhra Pradesh and state:

(a) the nature of inquiries made by the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development regarding Kothagudam Thermal Plant;

(b) whether it is a fact that the officials and experts of the Bank have recently visited Kothagudam and stated that there is a possibility of installing there a 10 lakh K.W. power station; and

(c) if so, whether Government have examined the findings of the experts of the Bank?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). The enquiries

made by the Bank related to the size of the units, their location, and the question of integration of Ramagundam unit with Kothagudam Thermal Plant and other technical details. The officials and experts of the Bank had recently visited the site for an on-the-spot study of the technical aspects of the project. The experts, however, have not specifically stated about the possibility of installing a 10 lakh K.W. power station at Kothagudam, even though it is recognised that this possibility exists.

(c) The findings of the experts of the Bank will be submitted to the Bank and are as yet not known to us.

**Shri Heda:** What are the requirements of power of the collieries and industries round about Kothagudam?

**Shri Alagesan:** That has been assessed as 45 mega-watt power, and it is proposed to instal two units of 50-60 mega-watts at Kothagudam.

#### Fire in Timber Depot at Dhilwan

\*1056. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 657 on the 7th December, 1961 and state the findings of the investigation into the causes of fire which broke out in a Depot of timber at Dhilwan near Jullundur?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** The Police investigation has concluded and according to their findings it was an accidental fire.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether the approximate amount or the exact amount of the loss has been estimated?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** It is Rs. 1.37 crores.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Is it not a fact that the police report is at variance with the report which was made by the Railway authorities; and, if that is so, in view of the divergence bet-

ween the two reports, should the matter not be referred to a judicial enquiry?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** It is true that there is a slight difference of opinion between the two. The Railway high-powered Committee suspected some sort of sabotage in it, whereas the Police enquiry said that it is just an accidental thing.

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** In the enquiry report that has been submitted by the Railway authorities, is there any indication that the inferior quality of timber that had been passed on and accepted at Pathankot may have been one of the reasons for the fire?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** No such suggestion has been made.

**Shri Daljit Singh:** May I know how many persons have been interrogated in this respect, and the results thereof?

**Mr. Speaker:** How would it benefit us to know the number of persons?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The enquiry was conducted by the Police. So I cannot say.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या मन्त्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह टिम्बर इन्श्योर की गयी थी या नहीं ?

श्री शाहनवाजखान : कोई इन्श्योरेंस नहीं किया गया था ।

#### Transfer of Open Line Staff of Calcutta to Bilaspur

+  
\*1658. { **Shri Priya Gupta:**  
          **Shri Nath Pai:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that open line staff at Calcutta has been transferred to Bilaspur for construction work;

(b) whether the consent of these employees was obtained before the

transfer or any option was given to them;

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement for their accommodation at Bilaspur and the payment of the construction allowance; and

(d) if not, what arrangements have been made by Government to accommodate these employees and the payment of the construction allowance?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**Shri Priya Gupta:** May I know whether this staff are employed in construction work and whether the construction allowance would be given to them? This has not been clarified by the hon. Minister. I wanted to know whether they have been sent to this work by force or after taking their option. That is a clear question, because the staff of the Northern Railway cannot be transferred to Eastern Railway or somewhere else.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now the hon. Member is arguing.

**Shri Priya Gupta:** Sir, he has given an evasive reply.

**Mr. Speaker:** If he wants to put a question, he might put it now.

**Shri Priya Gupta:** I shall put it again. May I know whether the staff who are now working at Bilaspur have been transferred from other places where they were originally working, and whether any option had been obtained from them before such transfer? That is number one. Then..

**Mr. Speaker:** One by one.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** The position is this. Some have a lien at the headquarters. Others have no lien there and have to work in district centres. We have transferred only those who have no lien in the headquarters. Some of them are working in the headquarters pending the construction work. After the expiry of