

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** My hon. friend is aware that this line is about 124 miles long. Surveys have been carried both for metre-gauge and broad-gauge. Very detailed investigations are necessary and we hope that the report will be with us by the end of December.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know if the engineering surveys that are being conducted are both for broad-gauge as well as for metre-gauge lines?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri Narasimhan:** In that case what are the alternative routes surveyed and what are the respective estimates?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** That will be known as soon as we have the report.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** When is the report likely to be got by the Railway Board?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We hope by the end of December.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether the Government have any idea of acting on the survey report within the Second Plan period?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I am very sorry to inform that there is no such possibility.

**Shri Narasimhan:** What is the amount spent on the survey so far? What is the budgeted amount?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** For the traffic survey a sum of Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned and for the preliminary engineering survey, a sum of Rs. 4,75,000 and odd was sanctioned.

#### Navigation of Rupnarain River

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\*592. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
      **Shri Barman:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question

No 783 on the 12th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any other model experiment has been done or is proposed to be done to find out how steamers can be made to pass through Kolaghat from Calcutta;

(b) whether it is a fact that fair sized motor launches cannot pass down to Banka down the river Rupnarain;

(c) whether Government are aware that another bridge is under construction to connect the National Highway at Kolaghat; and

(d) if so, whether this fact will also be taken into consideration when the model experiment will be carried on?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) No model experiment has been undertaken for this purpose so far, but it is proposed to do so after a large scale new Model of the Hooghly and its tributaries has been set up at the Poona Research Station.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India have sanctioned the construction of a National Highway bridge at Kolaghat.

(d) All relevant factors will be taken into consideration.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Is it not a fact, that after the first model experiment, a spur was made and erosion was stopped? Now, if it is taken away will erosion commence again and if so, what intermediate steps does the Government intend to take so that it may be stopped?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** There is no suggestion to take away this spur at the moment as far as I am aware. The answer to that question can be given only when this new model has been set up and the necessary studies made at the Poona Research Station.

**Shri Biren Roy:** In view of the fact that.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I did not call the hon. Member. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty

**Shri Biren Roy:** You have not called, and that is why I put this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I do call the hon. Member. He cannot go on like this. I would not call him hereafter.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether this model which is to be set up at the Poona Research Institute is to contain all the rivers and tributaries in Bengal or only the area of Midnapore and Rupnarain and its branches?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** This new model will be a model of the Hooghly and its tributaries in the lower reaches.

**Shri Biren Roy:** In view of the fact that the new bridge which has been sanctioned may take many years to be built on account of the paucity of finances, would the Ministry of Communications recommend that the railway bridge which is already in existence and which was used during the war time for traffic by means of asphalt in between the tract be allowed to be used because of the development of that area and so on?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** This is a suggestion and I will have it examined by the appropriate authorities.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether this silting at Kolaghat and in the Rupnarain river has any connection with the increase of Bellary Bar and Rangafala Bar that have been created in the mouth of the Hooghly river?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** It is very difficult to give an answer to that question till the studies have been completed, but at present the indication seems to be that deterioration of the river has taken place on ac-

count of two major factors: one is the spur which was built and the second is that there is not sufficient flow of fresh water, and for this even the Damodar Valley Dams have been partly held accountable. All this will take time before a complete answer can be given.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** The hon. Minister assured us that he would take the matter up in regard to the railway bridge being opened to vehicular traffic. May I know whether in his consultations he will include other bridges also, like the Sone?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** That question hardly arises out of this specific question about the Rupnarain.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether the river Vidyadhari is also included within this model experiment?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I have already stated that in the model experiment all the tributaries of the Hooghly in the lower reaches will be taken.

### उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में औषधीय जड़ी बूटियाँ

\*५६३. श्री भक्त बर्तन : क्या कृषि तथा कृषि मंत्री २० नवम्बर, १९५६ के ताराकित प्रश्न संख्या २०१ के अनुपूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देहरादून की वन-नवेषणा संस्था ने गढ़वाल, देहरादून व टिहरी गढ़वाल जिलों में औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों के सर्वेक्षण का जो कार्य प्रारम्भ किया था, उसमें इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

सहकार मंत्री (डा० पं० शा० बेसमल) : सभा की टेबल पर एक विवरण रत्न दिया गया है। [देखिय परिशिष्ट २, अनुबंध संख्या ११७]

श्री भक्त बर्तन : जहाँ तक मुझे ज्ञात है, इस सम्बन्ध में १९५४ से सर्वेक्षण किया जा रहा है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब तक