

Shri Raj Bahadur: At least that is not the advice of the German engineers who have installed the machine and who have come again to see.

Shri Tangamani: Has there been any such experience in Bombay?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is not the experience in Bombay.

Floods in Tripura

*1374. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are aware that the 'Khaura Bil' of Tripura, is inundated by the waters of river Manu every year; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take in this regard and when?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 78].

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether it is a fact that several petitions on behalf of the 7,000 villagers who had been depending on the production of the paddy fields before partition were addressed to Government for the removal of the stagnant water by digging canals?

Shri Hathi: The Government of India in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power have not received any such petition.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether it is a fact that the yearly yield was about 75,000 mds. of paddy before the area was so inundated by water?

Shri Hathi: This area is not always inundated; it is only for some two days or so in a year.

Sonarpur Railway Accident

*1375. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an editorial comment in The Statesman dated the 27th February, 1958 regarding an allegation that the Railway Police is believed to have killed the injured survivors of Railway accident at Sonarpur; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The editorial comment referred to does not make an allegation that the railway Police killed the injured survivors of the Sonarpur accident but it merely states that, according to the reporter of the Paper, some of the villagers in the vicinity of Sonarpur apparently entertain a belief that injured survivors of accidents are killed by the Railway Police.

It is difficult to correct such feigned ignorance. However, as the allegation relates to State Police any action will have to be initiated by them.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the report of the Chief Inspector of Railways who enquired into this accident has been received; and, if so, whether that report will be laid on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise out of this? The hon. Member has referred to the killing by the Police.

Shri Tangamani: There is no court of enquiry about this accident, Sir. Only the Chief Inspector of Railways enquired into the matter and he might have also mentioned this in his report. If the report is ready, it may be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We have not yet received the final report.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Is it a fact that the committee to fix the compensation to be paid to the injured and killed in this accident was not set up till almost a month after the accident?

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise out of this question? I admitted this question only on the ground that it is not a major accident.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It is a major accident and a very serious one, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I admitted this question on account of the fact that a responsible newspaper reported that those people who were injured in the accident and lying there were killed by the police. I wanted this matter to be explained, to clear off any misunderstanding, as was stated by the hon. Minister. Nothing more arises out of this. Other matters may be very important; but separate questions have to be put.

Shri Tangamani: If the report is available we will be able to know how many people were killed and how many were injured.

Mr. Speaker: It won't show that the police killed the people. That is the short point. The report is also not available.

Rajasthan Canal Project

*1376. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 733 on the 7th March, 1958 and state whether it is a fact that the Government of Rajasthan in consultation with the Union Ministry, propose to appoint an Administrator for Rajasthan Canal Project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): The Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan have agreed to set up a 'Committee of Direction' and an

Administrative set up for the proper execution of the Rajasthan Canal Project.

Shri Karni Singhji: May I know the name of the administrator and what his powers would be?

Shri Hathl: The Administrator has not yet been appointed. What I have stated in the reply is that there will be an administrative set-up and they are appointing an Administrator. But, he has not yet been appointed.

Shri Karni Singhji: Is it a fact that the name of Mr. Kanwar Sain who conceived the project has been suggested for this set-up?

Shri Hathl: The Rajasthan Government have requested us to spare certain officers for this purpose. It will be too premature to name any particular individual at this stage. But, the Government of India will try to accommodate the Rajasthan Government and spare the officers that they want.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister be able to give us some details about the administrative set-up?

Shri Hathl: As the reply mentions, there are two bodies to be set up; one, the 'Committee of Direction' and the other the administrative set-up. The committee will consist of the Minister of Irrigation and Power as the Chairman, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan or his representative and the Chief Minister of Punjab as the other two members. The administrative set-up will look to the day to day administration. There will be the Chairman, the Chief Engineers of the Project, the Financial Adviser of the Project, the Finance Secretary of Rajasthan and there will be a Secretary also of the committee.

Shri Karni Singhji: I would like to know to whom this administrative set-up will be responsible—to the Central Government or the Rajasthan Government?