

Periyar and Kundah Power Projects

*735. **Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is likely to be delay in the completion of Periyar and Kundah Power Projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to keep to the schedule?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 49.]

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Owing to frequent power cuts, has it been impressed upon this Government that it is very necessary to give this top priority to prevent a break-down of power supply in Madras State?

Shri S. K. Patil: It does not require any impressing on the State Government. They are more concerned than even we are.

Shri Nanjappa: In view of the fact that the Canadian Government is rendering all help to complete the Kundah project in the scheduled time, is it possible to complete the scheme before the scheduled time?

Shri S. K. Patil: If it is completed before the scheduled time, we shall be happy, but the scheduled time is 1960-61.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether these two schemes have been included in the core of the Plan.

Shri S. K. Patil: I think they are. I do not know about the core so far as these are concerned, but so far as the Kundah project is concerned, we are getting foreign aid, and therefore, no question of foreign exchange arises.

Shri Balakrishnan: May I know whether it is a fact that the Canadian Government has given further assistance of materials and machinery to complete the Kundah project?

Shri S. K. Patil: I said the same thing. The entire foreign exchange is coming from outside. Therefore, there is no difficulty about completing it.

Eastern Railway Press

*736. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 728 on the 3rd December, 1957 and state:

(a) what action has been taken against three employees of Eastern Railway Press as a result of departmental enquiry; and

(b) whether there has been a total assessment of the losses incurred?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) One employee has been removed from service on 25-1-1958; another punished with stoppage of increment for 2 years without cumulative effect and a show cause notice for removal from service has been served on the third.

(b) No loss has been sustained in connection with the cases against these employees.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know what actually were the charges that were substantiated against these people, if it was not only the question of losses.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The charges were mainly presentation of a bogus certificate for enrolment.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know who were the people responsible for actually putting these people into service in spite of false certificates, and whether it is a general rule not to take people through employment exchanges, but through direct recruitment?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: On the railways we do recruit people directly, although we notify the date of employment to the employment exchange. We do recruit persons directly on the railways.