

Shri Hathi: It is not possible to start canals before the negotiations are actually completed and we decide upon the site of the barrage

Conversion of Gudivada-Bhimavaram Section into Broad Gauge

*1067. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 797 on the 2nd September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the work on the conversion of Gudivada-Bhimavaram section into Broad Gauge has been commenced,

(b) if so, the amount spent upto the end of November, 1958 on this project, and

(c) if the reply to part (a) be in the negative, when it is likely to commence?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (c) No, Sir. The financial implications of the project just received are under examination and sanction is expected to be issued shortly

(b) Does not arise

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: A sum of Rs 26 lakhs has been provided in the Budget for the current year as against an estimated expenditure of Rs 225 crores for this project. Am I to understand that this amount will lapse because there is no prospect of its being utilised?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It was linked up with some two other items. It is only now that the line clear has been given and it will be taken up

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that this conversion was thought of in order to facilitate the export of rice from the almost heaviest rice bowl within the rice-growing area of Andhra?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Apart from that, there are other considerations

also, namely, operational facilities. We want first of all to eliminate the mixed gauge over the Krishna bridge and the metre gauge yard at Bezwada. These are some of the main considerations

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If it is taken up, may I know whether it will be completed during the Second Five Year Plan period?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Efforts will be made, Sir.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether technically this project has been found fruitful and whether the conversion will be given a trial and will not likely be given up?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Which?

Mr. Speaker: This Gudivada-Bhimavaram section. The hon. Member wants to know whether there is any prospect of its being given up

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No, Sir, there is no such prospect

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Estimates Committee in one of their reports about the working of the Railway Ministry observed that there are huge amounts provided in the Budget but they are not utilised and so they lapse. May I know what steps are being taken by the Railway Ministry to see that these budget provisions do not lapse?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This is a general question

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It is a specific question

Shri Tangamani: What will happen to these Rs 26 lakhs? Rs 26 lakhs have been provided in the current year and not a single pie has been spent so far

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is my friend worried over the lapse or over the line? If he is worried over the line, it will come up

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If there is no money spent how will it come up?

Mr. Speaker: We can pass any amount any time but the work has to be speeded up

Railway Protection Force Act

*1958. { **Shri Sanganna:**
 { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 has neither yet been enforced nor any Rules have so far been framed thereunder, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes

(b) The draft Rules have been framed and are now being carefully scrutinized by an officer who has been placed on special duty for this purpose. It is expected that the final draft will be ready by the end of this year when it will be discussed with the Ministries concerned. An endeavour is being made to place the Rules before the Lok Sabha by the middle of next year.

Shri Sanganna. May I know whether the offences committed on the railway lines have increased or decreased?

Mr. Speaker. We are going away from one thing to another.

Shri Tangamani: When this Act was passed in July 1957, why 2 years have elapsed before the rules are framed under it?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The framing of the rules is a very intricate business. I might say that the Reserve Police Force Act was passed in 1949 and the rules were placed on the Table of the House in February, 1955 after 5 years.

But, I might submit that we have placed an officer specially on duty for

this purpose of framing the rules as expeditiously as possible, and we hope that by the middle of next year they will be placed on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker. I believe there is no purpose in having a Subordinate Legislation Committee, if as the hon. Minister said an Act was passed in 1949 and the rules were framed in 1955 and it is taken as a precedent. He has also said that it is only one year and not three or four years before the rules are framed.

Whenever an Act is passed, they must have in contemplation as to how they are going to work out or implement that Act. They must frame the rules within a reasonable time. There is no use in saying that they would follow the precedent of four years. I would like to give a direction to the Subordinate Legislation Committee to be vigilant.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Before you ruled, I was going to intervene in this case. That should not be treated as a precedent and if it is a precedent, it is a very bad precedent. I personally feel that it has taken too much time and the matter should have been expedited much earlier (*Interruption*). It came to my notice that the rules have not been finalised, and, then, I advised that a special officer should be put on this duty so that the rules might be finalised within a reasonable time.

There are some difficulties, of course, but they could have been taken care of earlier, because the State Governments will have to be consulted. But I will see that it is expedited.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I explain the position of

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary. The hon. Minister has said that he will expedite it.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I explain the position of the Subordinate