

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) when the examination of the same by the Railway Board is likely to be concluded; and

(d) when action is likely to be initiated on those recommendations?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise

Tungabhadra High Level Canal

*1186. { Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Ramam:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 44 on the 18th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether detailed estimates have been prepared for the first phase of the Tungabhadra High Level Canal, and

(b) if so, when is the first stage to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the joint project report submitted by the State Governments, Stage I of the Tungabhadra High Level Canal is proposed to be completed in a period of three years. Actual completion will, however, depend on the availability of funds.

Electricity Boards

*1187. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those States which have completed their schemes for the setting up of Electricity Boards;

(b) whether the big power projects in different States will also be entrusted to these Boards;

(c) what will form the nucleus of the capital of these Boards; and

(d) how far they will be helpful in the expansion of electricity in rural areas as compared with the present arrangements under Government control?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) Electricity Boards have been set up in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Bombay, West Bengal, Kerala, Rajasthan, Madras, Mysore, Bihar, Assam and Punjab. Intimation has been received from the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh that they have finalised the scheme for setting up the Boards, with effect from the 1st April, 1959. The Government of Orissa are also actively engaged in making arrangements for the establishment of a Board shortly.

(b) Although it is intended to transfer all the Power Projects to the Boards, the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, does not contain any specific provision to this effect. The question of amendment of the Act for this purpose is, therefore, under consideration, in consultation with the State Governments.

(c) The funds of the Board will comprise the loans advanced to them by the State Governments, and the Boards' own borrowings from the public, with the previous sanction of the State Governments, besides the assets transferred by the State Government Departments to the Boards.

(d) The State Electricity Boards are being set up for the rationalisation of production and supply of electricity in the entire State, with particular reference to such development in areas not served or un-adequately served by an electricity system. Rural electrification is thus a special responsibility of these organizations.