

**Shri M. B. Thakore:** May I know whether the supply of water will be affected because of the Indus Canal treaty?

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether there will be any shortfall in the supply of water. How was this asked? It is not in the Indus water basin?

**Shri Hathi:** There will be no difficulty for supply of water from the Rajasthan canal because of the Canal Water treaty.

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** May I know whether there is any proposal to provide lift irrigation projects along this canal with a view to provide irrigation facilities to the arid area?

**Shri Hathi:** It may be considered for some areas.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** How much land will be brought under cultivation—how many acres?

**Shri Hathi:** Thirty-six lakh acres.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question. If hon. Members go on with supplementaries, the Members who have taken all the trouble to table questions are elbowed out. This is what is happening. Some hon. Member puts a question. Other hon. Members who do not care to put questions, catch hold of the opportunity and go on.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** Even if questions are put, they are being made into unstarred questions and therefore, we do not get an opportunity to ask questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** Ten thousand questions are coming. If everything becomes starred, I do not know if there would be too much of dazzling light here.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** We are submitting questions; they are made unstarred.

### Purli-Vajinath-Latur Link

\*1059. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 670 on the 12th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken regarding the linking of Purli-Vajinath with Latur;

(b) if so, the nature of decision arrived at; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The question of connecting Latur with Purli-Vajinath is linked up with the conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj-Latur Section to B.G. or M.G., which is under examination.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Exactly after a year, the same reply the hon. Minister is giving. May I know when the decision with regard to the Latur-Kurduwadi-Miraj line which has been included in the Second Plan for conversion into M.G. or B.G. will be arrived at?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** It may be so. First of all, it was sought to convert it into B.G. Then came the suggestion that the question of converting it into M.G. also could be taken up. Both reports are submitted. For the conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj-Kolhapur section into B.G., the cost is about Rs. 10 crores. If it is metre gauge, the Miraj-Kurduwadi-Vajinath line would cost about Rs. 11 crores. If it is converted into B.G., the return is only .98 per cent. If it is converted into M.G., it is only .89 per cent. The Latur-Purli-Vajinath section alone, 39 miles, costs Rs. 2.81 crores. None of these conversions is financially justified.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know what considerations weighed with the

Government when they included the conversion project in the Second Plan?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** It is always open to revision. When we find that it is not paying, we have got to reconsider again.

**Shri Goray:** This is a very important question. Because, when we ask why is it that amenities are not provided at Kurduwadi for the pilgrims going to Pandarpur which is one of the most well known pilgrim centres in India, the answer is that we are re-considering the whole scheme. Therefore, no amenities whatever are provided for the pilgrims. Now he says that the scheme is not going to be undertaken. So, the people are pushed from pillar to post.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** The reports are under consideration of the Board.

**Swami Ramananda Tirtha:** Will the hon. Minister state whether the conversion of the Miraj-Latur line into Metre gauge and its extension to Purli-Vajinath will reduce the overall distance from the north to the south for goods traffic and economise the whole process?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** This question does not arise in the context of the Khandwa-Hingoli link which is in operation now. The distance is short in that way and all the goods will be moving along Secundrabad line and not along this.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow an argument on this matter. The hon. Minister feels like that. I have allowed him to give details. He has worked out the details, .98 per cent., .87 per cent. and so on.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Totally wrong.

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot allow him to displace the Minister. He must come in due course and become a Minister and then come to conclusions. All that I can allow is, why he has not taken up a particular matter. Further arguments won't be allowed. Next question.

### Magnetic Storms

\*1061. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any disturbance in radio communication in the first week of October, 1960 due to magnetic storms;

(b) if so, what difficulties were encountered; and

(c) whether it affected the radio transmission in this country?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** (a) Yes, Sir, there was some disturbance in the radio communications in the first week of October 1960 due to magnetic storms.

(b) Due to the magnetic storm, a number of radio communication circuits were affected. The difficulties encountered were in the nature of wide fluctuation in the strength of received signal, technically known as fading. At times the signals completely faded out.

(c) As in other countries, it did affect the radio transmission in this country also.

**Shri P. K. Deo:** May I know how long the storm lasted? Is there any device in this country to detect the storms in advance?

**Dr. P. Subbarayan:** There is no such device in any other country. It is a very difficult thing to calculate.

**Shri P. K. Deo:** How long it lasted?

**Dr. P. Subbarayan:** It lasted 12 to 17 hours.

### Coal Transport

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\*1062. { **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:**  
**Shri Bimal Ghose:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has asked Government to make proper arrangement