

expenditure by Government is about Rs. 55 lakhs.

Indo-Pakistan Talks on West Bengal-East Bengal Rivers

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*1370. { Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India's attention has been drawn to a statement reported to have been made by the President of Pakistan that it has been agreed between him and the Prime Minister of India that talks between India and Pakistan should be held immediately in connection with problems arising out of the utilisation of water of rivers of West Bengal and East Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the whole matter; and

(c) the Government of India's reaction thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) to (c). The Prime Minister met President Ayub Khan of Pakistan in London. The President referred to the Farakka Barrage Scheme and to various schemes connected with Teesta River. He suggested that it would be advantageous to both countries to co-operate in connection with these schemes. Prime Minister agreed with this general approach. The President suggested that the matter might be discussed at ministerial level and he could send one of his Ministers to Delhi for this purpose. The Prime Minister agreed to this.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know the main points that have arisen from

the problems arising out of the distribution of the waters of the rivers?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: This matter has been under discussion for a long time between the two Governments, about the utilisation of the eastern rivers. There is no new development that has taken place.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know when the talk is going to be held?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: We are waiting for President Ayub Khan to send his representative.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether our Government has made it absolutely clear to the Pakistan Government that it is a matter for unilateral action and that we will not wait for any negotiations, and the project will proceed according to our schedule?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes, Sir; the project will proceed. The work on the project will not be stopped because of this.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that Pakistan has very recently sent a very strong note of protest to our Government asking Government not to proceed with the implementation of the Farakka dam project? Our information is that President Ayub Khan has also written a personal letter to our Prime Minister. If so, what is the reaction of our Government to the protest note and the personal letter?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: A note has been received by us and it is under consideration. It is true that in that note, the Pakistan Government has protested. But as I have said, we will continue with the project in spite of all protests. As regards the letter, the Prime Minister is not here. The letter has arrived; I do not know what it contains.

Shri D. C. Sharma: If the project will continue as before, may I know what is the use of having these negotiations

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Negotiations are always good. It is good to talk things over in a general way.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri D. C. Sharma: Does it mean that these negotiations are going to be like all other negotiations, matter of give and take? There is nothing like give and take implied in this project.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: That is not the only one question, there are many questions connected with these eastern rivers.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Guha.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question has been covered.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Renuka Ray.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: My question has already been put.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, unless hon. Members stand up again and again I will not call them.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that in the protest the Barcelona convention has been mentioned; if so, may I know whether we are at present under the Barcelona Pact?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I am not aware of the Barcelona Pact. I require notice and then I will look into it.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह पाकिस्तान ने जो नोट दिया है उसमें इरिगेशन रिवर के बारे में बाग्मीना कंवेनशन का जिक्र किया है। बाग्मीना कंवेनशन के अनुसार क्या इसमें जवाबेंट कमिशन का तरीका होने जा रहा है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वे इनकी नहीं जानते हैं, आप उनको इन्कॉर्पोशन देंगे है।

Shri Raghunath Singh: That question is quite different.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा नहीं जानते हैं, क्योंकि दूसरा मसाला आप पूछते हैं।

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): That is very good poetry, Sir, if I may say so; you made a verse.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what is the programme of work for the year 1961-62 regarding this project?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I require notice.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that unlike the western rivers, the eastern rivers have a greater volume of water and the Farakka Dam is going to divert only a small portion of water and we are also interested in maintaining the net-work of rivers in East Pakistan because trade between Assam and West Bengal passes through the net-work of rivers in East Pakistan, what is the reason for negotiation? The things are very clear.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: There are several questions connected with this. It is a sort of package deal I think the hon. Minister for Irrigation and Power may be able to answer that question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Sir, may we keep this question pending for the Prime Minister to answer? The hon. Parliamentary Secretary does not seem to know about the recent note and the nature of that note.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever doubts hon. Member hon. Members may have they may clear those doubts on a separate question. I will allow a separate question.

Shri Hem Barua: Now that the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power is here, he may be directed to answer.

Mr. Speaker: At some other time.

Maps of India published by Communist Countries

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{ Shri Bishwanath Roy;
*1371. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta;
 { Shri Rameshwar Tandia:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that besides the U.S.S.R. the Governments of some