Shri Chintamonj Panigrahi: Question No. 618 also may be taken up. It is on the same project.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Minister answer both the questions?

Shri Hathi: By all means.

Orissa Government's objection to the Construction of Hydro-Electric Project Across Sileru at Guntavada

*585. { Shri Khushwaqt Rai: Shri Rami Reddy: Shri Kodiyan:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government raised objections to the construction of the weir relating to the Hydro-Electric Project across Sileru at Guntavada by the Andhra Pradesh Government;

(b) what are the objections raised by the Orissa Government;

(c) whether the Centre has been apprised of the dispute between the two States;

(d) what is the action taken by the Centre in the matter; and

(e) whether the construction work has been suspended on account of the objections of the Orissa Government?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The difference of opinion was about the height of the Guntavada Weir.

(c) Yes; Sir.

(d) The matter is under negotiation between the State Governments concerned. The Central Government will help to resolve the differences only if these cannot be resolved mutually.

(e) At the request of the Orissa Government, the work on the Orissa side was stopped by the Andhra Pradesh Government.

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Upper Sileru Project

*618. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an agreement between the two Chief Ministers of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh regarding the height of the weir at Guntavada;

(b) whether the Orissa Chief Minister has agreed to the proposal of the Andhra Government which wanted the crest level to be 34 feet above the river bed;

(c) what would be the maximum power generated at Guntavada weir;

(d) whether this power will be shared between Orissa and Andhra; and

(e) to what extent the raising of the height of the Guntavada weir is going to affect the construction of the dam at Balimala in Orissa?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The matter was discussed by the Chief Minister of Orissa with the Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh on 17th and 18th July, 1961. They agreed that a final decision will be taken after the Chief Engineers of both the States have discussed and reported on the issue.

(c) 30 MW continuous.

(d) Since the cost of the Guntavada weir is to be borne by Andhra Pradesh alone, the benefits from the project will not be shared.

(e) The scheme, as sanctioned, provides for the FRL of the Guntavada weir at +1339, primarily to ensure that no difficulty is experienced in the construction of Balimela Dam as and when it is taken up for execution.

Shri Kodiyan: May I know whether there has been any progress in the negotiations that are now going on between the Andhra Government and the Orissa Government?