

**Shri S. N. Das:** What are the reactions of the Damodar Valley Corporation authorities to the proposed amendment?

**Shri Hathi:** Sir, this is under consideration yet.

**Shri T. K. Chandhuri:** May I know if the views of the State Governments who are directly concerned with the administration of the D.V.C. have been taken?

**Shri Hathi:** Yes, Sir, there was an Inter-State Conference at which the representatives of the Bihar and West Bengal Governments were present and their views were considered.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know if the Minister proposes to lay the report of the Rao Committee on the table of the House and, if so, when?

**Shri Hathi:** After the recommendations of the Committee have been considered by Government it will be laid on the table of the House.

#### OFFICE 'K' BLOCK CASE

\*661. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question No. 358 on the 8th July, 1952 regarding 'K' Block case of Central Public Works Department, and state whether the Contractor has been finally paid?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** No, Sir.

**Shri Ajit Singh:** May I know whether the contractor has filed a civil suit for the recovery of the dues?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I have no information.

**Shri Ajit Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that the contractor was already over-paid?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** If he has already been over-paid then there is no question of his filing a civil suit.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then the question will be what steps are being taken to recover the excess payment.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** We have not filed any suit against him for any recovery.

**Shri Ajit Singh:** What is the amount of the final bill and the amount of the contract agreement?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** If they were finalised, there will be no difficulty in finalising payment also. That matter is under consideration.

#### ENGINEERING DIPLOMAS

\*662. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether qualifications ICEASSOC, Eng. (SHEFF) and diploma of 'CE' SHEFFIELD are recognised engineering diplomas for recruitment to the Central Engineering Service, Classes I and II?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** No, Sir.

C. P. W. D.

\*663. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state what economy in the expenses of the C.P.W.D. organisation has been effected as a result of the implementation of the Kasturbhai Lalbhai Committee's recommendations?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** On comparable work-loads, economy of the order of 7 to 8 lakhs per year is anticipated.

**Shri Ajit Singh:** May I know whether all the recommendations have been accepted by Government?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** All except one or two.

**Shri Ajit Singh:** May I know which recommendations are still under consideration and which have been rejected by Government?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply I gave to another question on the 20th February, 1953 (Starred Question No. 219).

**Shri Ajit Singh:** May I know whether any engineer was taken as a member of this Committee?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The composition of this Committee was notified in the gazette. I do not remember the personnel at the moment but I presume there were engineer members also on the Committee.

#### KOSI PROJECT

\*664. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred on the Kosi Project so far?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** The total expenditure incurred on the Kosi Project investigations up to the end of September 1953 is Rs. 87,11,610.

**Shri Gidwani:** What is the revised estimated cost of the project and when will the project be completed?

**Shri Hathi:** The revised estimates are still under consideration.

**Shri Gidwani:** Has the attention of Government been drawn to a report published in the press that Government may give up the project as the site selected is unsuitable because of the river getting silted?

**Shri Hathi:** It is not a fact that Government is going to give it up. On the other hand, the investigations are going ahead and in a fortnight or so it will be possible to say what exactly will be the position.

**Shri Gidwani:** Do Government propose to send a deputation to China for studying the scientific method of preventing silt formation?

**Shri Hathi:** That is under the consideration of Government.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the question of apportioning

financial responsibility between the different Governments of Nepal, Bihar and India has been decided upon and if so, what are the details?

**Shri Hathi:** That can be done only after the estimates are known.

#### CONSTRUCTIONS OF OFFICES NEAR HARDINGE BRIDGE, NEW DELHI

\*666. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the Central Government Offices under construction, for the Finance Ministry, near Hardinge Bridge, New Delhi; and

(b) the date of commencement and the stipulated period for completion of this work?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) The estimated cost of the actual building under construction is Rs. 20·21 lacs.

(b) The work commenced on 12th November, 1952 and should be completed by February 1954.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** How many tenders were received for this work?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid it is going too much into the details of administration. What is the point of enquiring about tenders?

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** It is an information which must be available.

**Mr. Speaker:** Unless there is ground for suspecting that there is something underhand it will not be proper to go into such details of administration.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know whether the contract was given to the lowest tenderer?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Yes, Sir, to the lowest.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** When was this tender by the lowest tenderer received and when was it accepted?