

## NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

\*296. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how much portion (in length) of the original National Highway No. 7 (Banaras-Cape Comorin Road) would have been submerged on the construction of the proposed Krishna-Pennar Project?

(b) What would be the diversion (in length) if this Highway was taken along with the outskirts of the project or from above the bund of the project?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The length of submergence will depend on the reservoir level above the dam. If this level is R.L. 910.5, as originally contemplated by Madras the length of submergence along the Kurnool alignment is estimated as 9 miles.

(b) The length of the diversion required will also depend on the level of the reservoir. If the level of reserved is R.L. 910.5, the diversion will be about 30 miles and the diversion via Sidheshwaram above the bund will be about 85 miles.

**Shri Heda:** May I know how the alternate arrangement that was considered some time before would compare if the diversion is made on the bunds of the proposed project?

**Shri Alagesan:** Sir, the alignment, along the Sidheshwaram tank, seems to be the costliest and also the most difficult for execution.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether the question of constructing an overbridge in Pennar river in South Arcot district has been taken into consideration in the Highway Scheme and, if so, what is the present position?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not know how it arises from this.

## FOOD POLICY

\*299. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to reply to starred question No. 1210 asked on the 10th

September, 1953 and state the decision arrived at regarding derationing of foodgrains and the continuance of the control on price and-distribution of rice?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** Government of India have decided that wheat and coarse grains should now be completely decontrolled except that inter-State barriers should continue as before. Such controls over price and distribution of rice as there are at present will continue till the rice position in the country further improves.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether there is any proposal to grant greater freedom in inter-State movement for these foodgrains this year?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** There is already complete freedom of movement within the States regarding rice. About inter-State movement we do not allow it except by way of trade.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the Paddy Levy Order will be enforced, and if so, in what States?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** It has already been replied to by the hon. Minister that in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa the State procurement or levy will continue; but in other States there would not be any procurement at all.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** In Bihar. It may be made for local necessity.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** As most of the foodgrains are being decontrolled, what will happen to the surplus staff working in the Control Department?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Wherever they are retrenched, attempts will be made to absorb them in other departments.

## ELECTRIFICATION OF SUBURBAN LINES

\*300. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the names of officers appointed to survey the system of electric trains in the suburban lines of