

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government has any proposal to bring in cheap radio sets for the people so that they may have more radios hereafter?

Dr. Keskar: This is not related to listening directly, but I am prepared to agree with the hon. Member that cheap radio sets are a very important necessity for increasing the number of listeners. We are interested in the question and if we did not take it up till now it was because our network itself was not sufficiently strong for us to have cheap radio sets. We expect next year when our network is sufficiently strong to have the manufacture of cheap radio sets encouraged or, if it is not possible, for the ordinary trade to manufacture them to ourselves go into the manufacture of cheap radio sets.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know whether it is a fact that so far as musical programmes are concerned, listeners prefer Ceylon Radio to All India Radio?

Dr. Keskar: Probably my hon. friend and his friends are of that opinion.

KOSI RIVER MODELS

*16. **Shri V. Missir:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experiments on Kosi river models have been completed by the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The experiments are still in progress.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether the Indian team of engineers which visited China submitted any report, and, is it a fact that there is a proposal to tame the Kosi river by raising the embankments as a temporary measure?

Shri Hathi: The team of engineers that visited China has submitted a report to Government.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state when it is likely that these experiments will be completed?

Shri Hathi: On two models the experiments are completed. On the third it will take some more time because the experiment is in relation to the condition of the river after the barrage is constructed.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: In view of the heavy floods in the Kosi, have Government taken any steps to find out the directions of the floods and the devastation caused from actual survey?

Shri Hathi: In fact, the Minister of Irrigation and Power has already been there and is returning today, and so we shall get the complete data on the devastation caused by the floods.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether, due to the non-completion of these experiments, the financial sanction for the Kosi project, which has already been agreed to, is being delayed?

Shri Hathi: No, that has nothing to do with the sanction.

भाखड़ा बांध (नींव)

*१७. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर:** क्या सिचाई तथा बिद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सत्य है कि भाखड़ा बांध की नींव अभी तक नहीं डाली गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसकी नींव में कांक्रिट बिछाने का कार्य कब तक आरम्भ होने की आशा है?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) November 1955.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर: क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो तिथि माननीय मंत्री ने बताई है