

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the report of Mr. Gorwala, who was asked by the Central Government to investigate into all the departments of the D.V.C., has been considered by the Government?

Shri Nanda: There was no specific reference regarding the D.V.C. to Mr. Gorwala.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the average cost of the land per acre as reclaimed by this department and the price as compared to the prevailing price in Bihar?

Shri Nanda: The question relates to the operations under the Rehabilitation Department and there were some recommendations and remarks made in the Estimates Committee's report. All that material is under examination.

BOKARO THERMAL STATION

*744. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee (Fifth Report) regarding the early completion of the Bokaro Thermal Station and also giving higher priority to flood control and irrigation work have been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken on them?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The recommendation is under examination of Government.

(b) No decision has yet been taken.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether steps are being taken to expedite the work on the Thermal Station?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. The work is progressing very satisfactorily.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this part of the project is likely to be completed according to the schedule or before the schedule or after the schedule?

Shri Nanda: It is expected to be completed by early next year.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know when the flood control work will begin?

Shri Nanda: This is not connected with the question of the Thermal Station.

JOURNALISTIC AND CULTURAL DELEGATIONS

*745. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many official and non-official journalistic and cultural delegations

were sent to different countries in 1951-52;

(b) how the experiences gained by the delegations were utilised;

(c) the total expenditure incurred for delegations; and

(d) how many foreign journalists or parties of journalists visited India in 1951-52, and how their welfare was attended to?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) No delegation of journalists was sent by the Government of India to any country during the year. Five Cultural Delegations, sponsored by the Government of India, were sent in the course of the year. There were some non-official delegations about which no accurate information is available. The latter were not financed by the Government of India.

(b) The object of sending delegations is to promote better understanding between India and the countries visited. In this respect Government consider that the object was served.

(c) A little over Rs. two lakhs.

(d) It is not possible to give a correct figure of all the foreign journalists who have visited India during this period. Many of them did not seek Government's assistance in any way and hence are not included in our records. According to official records, 87 foreign journalists visited India in 1951-52.

Government invited a group of Turkish Journalists and these were treated as official guests during their stay in India.

All foreign journalists who sought Government's assistance were given help in establishing contacts, interviewing prominent people and visiting places of interest. Some were also entertained socially in order to enable them to meet Indian journalists and others.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether an invitation for sending journalistic delegations to India was sent to Iran?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It has been sent.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any invitations from other countries have come to us?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot answer that precisely. They might have come, but I am not aware at the moment.