

should be such as to be acceptable to Buddhists and all those who honour the Buddha. These matters are being considered now.

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd :** May I know the nature of help sought by the Thailand Government and the estimated expenditure that our Government may have to incur to comply with the request of the Thai Government ?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda :** We are not required to spend anything. Our officer has been loaned to the Thai Government who will pay for his salary, pensionary contribution, etc.

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd :** Has our Government any proposal to produce a film of the life of Buddha in connection with the 2,500th birth anniversary of Buddha ?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda :** This question might be put to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

#### ESTIMATED LIFE OF DAMS

\*1305. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the life of various dams that have been constructed or are under construction, has been fully estimated and ascertained ; and

(b) if so, the estimated life of Damodar Valley group dams and Hirakud Dam ?

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

The life of a dam is invariably estimated during the investigation stage of all projects.

(b) *Damodar Valley Group Dams*

Tilaiya	237 years
Konar	162 "
Maithon	110 "
Panchet	42 "

*Hirakud Dam*—Over hundred years.

These figures relate to the dead storage capacity of dams.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** May I know whether the desilting of these dams will be done annually or after a lapse of some five or ten years ?

**Shri Hathi :** So far as desilting is concerned, arrangements are already being made in the construction itself whereby this scouring and desilting continues. But in addition to that, other measures such as soil conservation will also have to be adopted.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** The life of Panchet Dam has been fixed only as 42 years. May I know the reasons for this, why it is so low ?

**Shri Hathi :** In the catchment area for Panchet Hill, it is supposed that there would be much silting, and steps will have to be taken for soil conservation measures. This is based not on complete data, but even then this is the calculation. But Damodar Valley Corporation are taking steps for soil conservation measures, and that might increase the life of the dam. Anyway, after five years, again further data will be collected and necessary steps taken.

**Shri B. D. Pande :** I want to know whether these dams will have to be rebuilt after one hundred years, or what will happen to so much of the money spent.

**Mr. Speaker :** The hon. Member will put the question to the then government ?

**Shri V. P. Nayar :** May I know whether under this Ministry any research has been done in order to lengthen the life of the dams, and may I also know whether any special research has been done in the matter of concrete work in the dams ?

**Shri Hathi :** When I am stating the life of the dam, it does not mean the life of the masonry structure of the dam; it means the utility of the dam, that is the use of the water in the reservoir. That is, after some time there will be silt and then when the whole reservoir is completely silted, it will be useless; that is, we will not be able to get water. It does not mean the life of the masonry or the concrete structure of the dam itself, but the utility of the waters stored. That is the meaning.

**Shri V. P. Nayar :** The question is not that.

**Mr. Speaker :** Very well. Shri Kasliwal.

**Shri Kasliwal :** Apart from these dams which have been recently constructed, or are under construction, probably Government is aware that there are certain other dams which are in existence in the country for some time. May I know whether the Government has undertaken any survey with regard to the life of these dams ?

**Shri Hathi :** Yes. We have got surveys of the different dams and their storage capacity.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das :** May I know whether, the catchment area having been deforested, the silt deposit will be so much that the estimated life of the dams as regards depth of the reservoir will not come out true and if so, whether any attempt is being made to re-afforest all these catchment areas which have been deforested?

**Shri Hathi :** Naturally, forests in the catchment area play an important part. Unless proper soil conservation measures are adopted, the life of the dam in the sense in which I was explaining, may decrease. Therefore, proper steps will have to be taken in the catchment area.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das :** Are they being taken ?

**Shri Hathi :** Yes.

**Shri D. C. Sharma :** May I know how the average life of dams in India compares with the average life of the dams in the U.S.A. and the U.S.S. R. ?

**Shri Hathi :** There cannot be a comparison of the average life of the dams in India. Because, even as I read from the statement, one dam is likely to have a life of 237 years and another 42. We cannot go by the averages. It depends on the catchment area of the particular river.

#### RAUWOLFIA SERPENTINA

**\*1306. Dr. Rama Rao :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken so far to manufacture high quality extracts from Rauwolfia Serpentina to meet (i) internal needs, and (ii) external markets ?

**The Minister of Industries (Shri Kanungo) :** Extract of Rauwolfia is manufactured in the country by private firms not only to meet the indigenous needs but also for export markets.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** May I know whether the Government is aware that there are serious complaints against the standards of certain drugs manufactured in India and that foreign manufacturers are having a market in India ?

**Shri Kanungo :** It may be in a very general sense, because, the question of consumer preference is also involved.

**Shri V. P. Nayar :** The hon. Minister said that local manufacturers manufacture for internal needs as well as for the export market. Do I take it that because of this there is no more export of Rauwolfia Serpentina in its crude form ?

**Shri Kanungo :** Export is permitted.

**Shri A. M. Thomas :** May I enquire what steps Government is taking to increase cultivation of this very excellent herb for our local as well as export markets ?

**Shri Kanungo :** It grows in profusion. There is no question of plantation yet.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** In view of the unsatisfactory condition of the manufacture of this vital drug and in view of the fact that we are losing the world market, because, they are trying to find out substitutes in the place of Rauwolfia, will Government take up the manufacture of this drug with high standards?

**Shri Kanungo :** The assumptions of the hon. Member are not quite correct. Because, most of the firms which