

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

19

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 20th March, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Inland Water Transport

*11. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the newly-appointed committee under the chairmanship of Sri Gokhale to consider a scheme for the development of inland canals by linking up Ganges, Cauvery and Tungabhadra has commenced its work?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Not yet, Sir.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know how far the scheme of inland water transport will help the industrial development of the country?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: That is the very purpose for which the Committee has been constituted. I am afraid we will have to wait for the report of the Committee.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: What will be the estimated cost of the scheme?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: It is too early to say that.

Periyar and Kundah Projects

*12. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the progress made so far in the Periyar Project and Kundah Project?

808 L.S.D.—

20

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 2.]

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: May I know what is the total cost of each of these two projects, and, secondly, what is the extent of foreign aid for each of these?

Shri Hathi: The estimated cost of the Periyar Hydro-electric Works is Rs. 10.48 lakhs and the total estimated cost of the Kundah scheme is Rs. 35.44 lakhs. In the first scheme there is no foreign aid. The second one—the whole of it—is covered by the Canadian Aid under the Colombo Plan.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: In the statement I find that the last sentence reads thus: "The first generating unit of 20,000 kw is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1959 and the entire plant by 1960-61." May I seek a clarification of the word "entire"? Does it mean that all the four stages will be covered? And what will be the total power to be added to the grid by 1960-61?

Shri Hathi: The first is 20,000 kw., one unit. There are going to be two units of 20,000 kw. each. That means 40,000 kw. And then there will be three units of 35,000 kw. each, which means 105,000 kw. So the total in this stage will be 145,000 kw. The fourth stage will be ultimately put in, which will have a total capacity of 108,000 kw.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: May I know whether the Government is fully aware that in view of the increased industrialization and increased rural electrification and the railway