

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether orders have been placed for the stores and machinery required?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We are making preliminary arrangements.

Nagarjuna Sagar Project

*127. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha showing the progress of work on Nagarjuna Sagar Project and the programme for 1957-58?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hath): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 35]

Dr. Rama Rao: The statement gives the progress of the work done so far and the programme for 1957-58. But it does not say when the foundation for the dam proper is going to be laid; it does not say whether it will at all be laid in 1957-58. May I know when it is likely to be laid?

Shri Hath: In seven years, that is, by 1963.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know when the foundation will be laid, not when it will be completed?

Shri Hath: The excavation for the foundation of the coffer dam which is 40 feet high has already started. The masonry dam is already completed, and about 700 feet of foundation work has been completed.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether any part of the work has been entrusted to the National Construction Co.?

Shri Hath: No, not yet.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether Government propose to send periodical reports on the progress of the work in these projects as in the case of the Tungabhadra project?

Shri Hath: Periodical reports are received. Perhaps, the hon. Member is aware that the Minister himself meets the Members of Parliament from the different States, and these

reports are supplied to them. If however, they have not been received, I shall send a copy of the monthly reports to any Member who is interested.

Dr. Rama Rao: In view of our experience with the Tungabhadra dam and the canals, may I know whether Government will see that the canals will be completed by the time the dam is completed?

Shri Hath: Government are anxious to see that with the completion of the dam, the canals also should be completed. Investigations have already started over a length of 52 miles.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know whether the equipment and machinery needed for this project have been secured and also how much more is likely to be asked for?

Shri Hath: All the machinery have not yet been secured. But to meet the immediate needs, we have transferred from the Hirakud project the batching plant and earth-moving plant. So, there will be no delay on account of shortage of machinery.

Shri Mohluddin: Is it a fact that owing to the restrictions on foreign exchange, the tenders that were invited for import of machinery have not been accepted, and, therefore, there is a likelihood of delay on account of this factor?

Shri Hath: No, we had a surplus batching plant at Hirakud and we have transferred that.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: In regard to the detailed investigation of the right and left bank canals referred to in the statement, may I know whether any arrangement is being made now to take the right bank canal on a higher contour so that a larger area might be covered?

Shri Hath: For the time being, we are going up to 108 miles. We have only covered 35 miles. The possibility of extending it further would be known only after we complete the present work.