

Shri Hathi: The total estimated cost as at present envisaged is Rs. 1,081.08 lakhs. The financial allocations will be determined after the project is sanctioned.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the reason for excluding this project from the core of the Second Five-Year Plan and whether it is likely to be included in the Third Five-Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: There is no question of excluding this project from the core because it has not yet been sanctioned.

श्री अक्षय वर्मान मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में कब तक निर्णय हो जायेगा, और क्या यह धारा की जा सकती है कि द्वितीय धायोजना की समाप्ति तक इस का काम कम से कम शुरू तो कर दिया जायेगा ?

Shri Hathi: It all depends upon our getting the final project report from the Uttar Pradesh Government.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if the State Government had intimated to the Central Government its difficulties regarding the completion of investigation or taking up of this project?

Shri Hathi: No difficulty has been represented to the Central Government by the Uttar Pradesh Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has stated that this will be considered as to whether this project is to be included in the core of the Plan. Out of the three projects in U.P. only one has been included. So, I want to know whether priority will be given to this project.

Shri Hathi: It is too early to say, but a provision has been made for this in the Second Five-Year Plan.

श्री अक्षय वर्मान इस योजना के दूसरे चरण, यानी दूसरी स्टेज, के बारे में बातचीत की जा रही है। तो क्या अभी महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पहला स्टेज बिन्दुन समाप्त

हो गया है वा नहीं उस के सम्बन्ध में कुछ किये जाने की धारा की जा सकती है ?

Shri Hathi: The first stake has been postponed, but in lieu of that the Central Government has sanctioned another power house at Harduaganj which will generate 30,00 kilowatts of power. For that financial assistance as well as foreign exchange is being given.

श्री अक्षय वर्मान मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया गया। मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि इस को समाप्त कर दिया गया है या भविष्य में, पांच दस साल बाद भी उस के लिये जाने की उम्मीद की जा सकती है ?

Shri Hathi: It is suspended, as I said.

Salem-Bangalore Link

*575 **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 173 on the 16th August, 1958 and state

(a) whether the examination of the report of engineering survey of the Salem-Bangalore rail link has since been concluded,

(b) whether the Railway Board propose to order a final location survey, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The report is still under examination.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know the reason for this delay because the report was received nearly eight or nine months ago?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is somewhat complicated because there are three alternative routes. Also, the question of BG or MG has to be decided. Therefore it is taking such a long time.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What are those three alternative routes that are

under examination by the Railway Board?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The three routes that have been proposed are one *via* one place, second *via* another place and third *via* a third place

Mr. Speaker: Could the hon Minister not give the names of those places?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is *via* Anakal or Surjapur or Bayyanappa Halli

Shri Narasimhan. In view of the fact that this link and the restoration of the dismantled lines are within the same alignment, may I know the book value of the existing portion of the dismantled lines? What is their present book value?

Shri S V Ramaswamy: I will require notice for that The fact is that the old embankment is still there and the buildings of the old railway are also still there But about the book value I will require notice

Shri Narasimhan. In this connection, do Government remember the assurance given by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, when he was the Railway Minister, on the 26th February, 1953, in his speech while replying to the Railway Budget, *viz*,

" after the work on the first twelve lines has been completed Morappur-Hosur, Truppattur-Krishnaguri, Akbarpur-Tanda and Madhoganj-Auhadpur lines come under the second category Their case for restoration will be put up before the Central Board of Transport when the work on the lines already in hand has been completed "

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy. Government has always got a very good memory and the hon Member keeps on reminding the Government also lest we forget

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In view of the fact that the aluminum plant is going to be set up at Salem and also that there is going to be expansion of

the manganese and bauxite mines, will the Railway Board expedite the examination of this report?

Shri S V. Ramaswamy: All these factors are being taken into consideration

Mr. Speaker: The hon Minister himself comes from Salem.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: He should take interest

Shri Dasappa: It is in my constituency

Has there not been a very express assurance given that this line will be taken up as soon as the engineering survey is concluded? That is what I want to find out

Shri S V. Ramaswamy: As soon as the engineering survey is completed, the traffic survey has also got to be taken into consideration Also, in the context of our limitations of finance, this has to be considered

Shri Dasappa: May I know why this line has not been set out in the Budget Speech of the hon Minister of Railways?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram). There are so many railway lines which the people of the area or the State Governments want to be constructed and which have not been included in the budget estimates

Shri Tangamani: This Bangalore-Salem link will connect Poona with Trivandrum, if it is going to be metre gauge If it is any gauge, it will connect not only Salem with the manganese site but also with the lignite site and Neyveli But in view of the importance of this

Mr Speaker: The hon Member is giving a suggestion

Shri Tangamani Why has there been such a delay of eight months?

Mr. Speaker. He has already answered that