

in 1955-56 was 54,000 tons. In 1958-59, it had gone down to 50,000 tons. They are also afraid that with any change in rates, there may be further loss of cargo to the Corporation. So, they are very careful. I know there has been delay, but we must give them some time.

Utilisation of Waters in D.V.C. Area

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*1182. { Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether any decisions have been taken on the report of the Team appointed by the Planning Commission regarding the full and proper utilisation of waters in the DVC area and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi). (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No 2]

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know the reasons for the delay and short-fall in the utilisation of water, since storing of water in the dam had begun as long ago as 1952-53?

Shri Hathi: The team has given certain reasons and the recommendations have been conveyed to the West Bengal Government. As the reply shows, the team was appointed by the Planning Commission and the execution is to be done by the West Bengal Government.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know whether the Government have finalised the programme of the canal system for both Tulaya and Konar dams and when this canal system will be completed?

Shri Hathi: That is not for the Government to do, that is for the DVC to consider.

Shri Hem Barua: The statement says that the West Bengal Government has passed the West Bengal Irrigation (Imposition of Water Rate for the DVC Waters) Act. May I know whether the recommendations of the committee to the effect that water rates are to be charged after two or three years, they are to be charged by stages and they are to be collected in full rates only in the sixth year have been included in that piece of legislation or not?

Shri Hathi: This is a question about levy. The hon. Member is asking about the water rates. They are different things.

Shri Kunhan: What is the total irrigation capacity of canals under the DVC and what was the area irrigated in 1958?

Shri Hathi: The total area to be irrigated is about 973,000 acres. In 1958-59 five lakhs acres will be ready.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any irrigation is done by DVC waters in Bihar and if so.

Shri Hathi: No, nothing.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: If not, why not? Originally it was estimated to irrigate some land in Bihar. May I know whether any step has been taken to irrigate that part?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said "No". Regarding "why not", it could be answered at some other time.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the recommendations of the committee that farm channels—that is the responsibility of the farmers—should be organised on co-operative basis, that is being implemented or not?

Shri Hathi: As I said, the implementation will have to be done by the West Bengal Government. The committee have recommended that it should be done by co-operatives or, if blocks are larger, it should be done by the project and then recovered from the farmers.

Fandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know the reasons for not irrigating lands in Bihar?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have said that could be known on putting a separate question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: According to the recommendations of the team, the West Bengal Government is going to take charge of the canal systems in Bengal from 1st December 1959. May I know whether similar recommendations have been made in the case of water of DVC which lies in Bihar that it will come under the control of the Bihar Government so that it could be fruitfully utilized?

Shri Hathi: This team was appointed by the Planning Commission to look into the utilisation of water in West Bengal only.

Shri Nagi Reddy: In view of the fact that the DVC has given as main reasons for the shortfall in irrigation side-slipping of canal banks, breaches and normal damages at certain points and thefts of regulator parts, had the committee appointed to go into the reasons given any opinion regarding them and, if so, what are they?

Shri Hathi: I do not think they have given any opinions. But they have suggested that there should not be dual control and it should be taken over by the West Bengal Government.

Survey of the Pearl Banks

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*1184. { **Shri Shivnanjappa:**
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr F B Salvadori, the Biologist under assignment by the FAO, conducted a survey of the Pearl Banks off the Gulf of Mannar recently; and

(b) if so, whether he has submitted his report of survey?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Dr.

Salvadori conducted a survey of some of the Pearl Banks, off Tuticorin in the Gulf of Mannar, during the period November 1958 to May 1959.

(b) Not yet.

Shri Shivnanjappa: May I know whether any survey was conducted before as to the pearl potentialities?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There was no scientific survey as such. But in one season they used to have the naked diving in the sea and getting the pearls. But no scientific survey has been made.

Shri Shivnanjappa: May I know the present output of pearls?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It varies from year to year. But we may say that it will range between Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs per year.

Subsidised Hostel for Children of Railway Employees at Cuttack

*1186. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 60 on the 18th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any progress has so far been made in setting up the subsidised hostel for the children of Railway employees at Cuttack, and

(b) if so, whether the estimate for the same has been finalised by now?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Pending construction of a permanent building a subsidised hostel on a smaller scale is being opened shortly in a Railway building.

(b) Estimates for the permanent hostel building have not yet been finalised.

Shri Panigrahi: Originally it was decided to accommodate 100 students in the railway hostel in Cuttack. May I know the number of students now accommodated?