

(b) Out of the 2,644 retrenched personnel—

- (i) 1,426 left the project area and expressed no desire for assistance for alternative employment;
- (ii) 145 refused to accept the alternative employment offered;
- (iii) 720 did not respond to the interview calls sent to them; and
- (iv) 310 have been provided with alternative employment.

Out of the 703 workmen served with notices in March, 1962, 698 have been given offers of employment in other Projects and Departments in Punjab.

(c) Efforts are being made to absorb the remaining workmen on the Beas Project in Punjab, in other river valley projects and undertakings elsewhere in India and in the various Departments of the Punjab Government.

#### **Manash River Power Project in Assam**

629. { Shri Basumatari:  
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Bhutan has revised their decision in regard to power project at Manash river in Assam;

(b) if so, terms and conditions laid down by the Government of Bhutan to this effect; and

(c) whether it is likely to be incorporated in the Third Five Year Plan?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim):**

(a) to (c). The Government of Bhutan have agreed to the survey and investigations being carried out in the catchment areas of the river Manash. If, after investigations, the project is found to be feasible, the terms and

conditions in regard to its construction would be worked out jointly. The question of taking up the surveys and investigations of the Project during the Third Five Year Plan period has not yet been decided.

#### **Kopily Project of Assam**

630. { Shri Basumatari:  
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kopily project of Assam State has been incorporated in the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what would be the amount involved and when the work is likely to be started; and

(c) the power and irrigation potential of the project?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim):**

(a) There is a provision in the Third Five Year Plan of Assam only for the investigation of Kopili project.

(b) The investigations have almost been completed by the Central Water and Power Commission and the draft project report and estimates are under preparation. The cost of the project is roughly estimated to be about Rs. 35 crores. It is too early to say when the construction work would be taken up.

(c) The power potential of the project is estimated to be about 215,000 kW at 100 per cent load factor. The precise power potential will be known only after the project report has been completed. The project does not envisage any irrigation benefits.

#### **Railway Line connecting Tripura with Assam**

631. Shri Biren Dutta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work for constructing a new Railway line connecting Tripura with Assam has started.