

Shortage of Power in Eastern India

725. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry had in an appraisal of the power situation in eastern India in September, 1961 warned that the Industrial belt in the east was facing prospects of a disastrous setback in its development through a shortage of electric power and demanded priority to power generation for that area; and

(b) if so, what has been the Government's reaction to this demand?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is constantly under examination with a view to meeting the shortage, considering the resources available for the purpose.

Repayment of Loans in Indian Exports

726. { **Shri Morarka:**
Shri Ravindra Varma:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations are going on with our creditor countries for accepting the repayment in Indian exports; and

(b) if so, the nature of negotiations and the results achieved so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). In respect of loans obtained from U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Poland arrangements already exist for their repayment (including interest charges) in rupees initially, the rupees being utilized for financing exports from India on the terms and conditions of the trade agreements entered into with the governments of these countries. In regard to loans obtained from other countries no negotiations are going on for accepting the repayment in Indian exports.

Srisaïlam Hydro-Electric Project

727. { **Dr. K. L. Rao:**
Shri Kella Venkaiah:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Srisaïlam Hydro-Electric Project does not involve consumption of any water;

(b) if so, the reasons for withholding the sanction of the project; and

(c) whether it is a fact that it will be extremely difficult to lay the foundations of Srisaïlam Project if Nagarjunasagar dam is built downstream?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The project report received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in October, 1962, does contemplate consumptive use of water.

(b) The project report is under examination in the Central Water and Power Commission.

(c) The construction of the foundations of the Srisaïlam dam would become difficult and more expensive if the work thereon is taken up after the Nagarjunasagar dam is constructed to an elevation of plus 546'.

Provision for Projects

728. **Dr. K. L. Rao:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what are the maximum amounts of money in a year spent in the case of large projects like Bhakra, D.V.C. and Hirakud; and

(b) what is the maximum provision made for a year for Nagarjunasagar Project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The information is as follows:

Bhakra Rs. 27.52 crores in the year 53-54.