

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** There is a difference in the water level between Ganga and Teesta, which is about 320 ft. in Assam. That is, the ships or the boats will have to go up 320 ft into Teesta and come back again by 320 ft. into the Brahmaputra. This will be negotiated through a series of lifts also known as locks.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** May I know whether this proposal to link up these rivers would affect the flushing of the Bhagirathi river and the Hooghly at Calcutta or it will simply help the communication between Assam and West Bengal?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** It would not help in the flushing. The water required for the navigation canal will come from Teesta river.

**Neyveli Thermal Plant**

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- \*973. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Dharmalingam:**  
**Shri Muthu Gounder:**  
**Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**  
**Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:**  
**Shri R. G. Dubey:**

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

(a) whether the terms for the supply of machinery and equipment by the Soviet Union for the expansion of the Neyveli Thermal Project have been approved; and

(b) if so, when the machinery and equipment will arrive and the generating capacity of the plant doubled?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao):** (a) Yes, Sir; for expansion of the installed capacity from 250 MW to 400 MW.

(b) Equipment for the first unit (50 MW) is expected to be delivered by the 3rd quarter of 1964. Based on this schedule of delivery, this unit is likely to be commissioned by March, 1965.

Equipment for the Second Unit (100 MW) is expected to be delivered by the last quarter of 1965. Based on this schedule of delivery, this unit is likely to be commissioned by March, 1966.

The installed capacity of this Project is to be raised further from 400 MW to 600 MW.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what will be the arrangements made to raise the capacity from 400 MW to 600 MW and whether the arrangements will be made with the Soviet Union or with some other country?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** I cannot say at present what exactly will be the size of the unit; that is still for consideration. But I think it will be a repetition of the order, of 100 MW—two more units of 100 MW each. It will be from Soviet aid, because the other units are with the aid of USSR.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** What are the terms of the agreement between the Soviet Union and our country so far as the supply of machinery and equipment for this project is concerned?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** The rate of interest is 2½ per cent interest repayable in 12 years in convertible rupees.

**श्री कछवाय :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रशिया से जो प्लान्ट आ रहा है क्या हम को उस का पैसा देना पड़ेगा। यदि हाँ, तो यह हम को उन के पैसों में देना पड़ेगा या अपने पैसों में ?

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** In convertible rupees.

**श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रूप से जो शर्तें रखी थीं उन में से क्या क्या शर्तें मान ली गई हैं।

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** There are no other conditions.