

**Shri Barman:** Passengers have, no doubt, to purchase fresh tickets at the Pakistan station. But they have to be armed with passes also. Was it not under contemplation to negotiate with Pakistan so that passenger traffic also could be arranged through Pakistan without any passport, by devising some arrangement whereby the passengers do not move away from the railway stations while travelling through Pakistan? If so, what is the result of such negotiations?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not think I am competent to answer that question. The railways make arrangements for goods being transported across Pakistan. So also is the case with passengers. But that does not mean that we can do away with other regulations.

**Shri Debendra Nath Sarma:** May I know whether negotiations for through-traffic between India and East Pakistan from Calcutta to Parbatipur, Lalmanirhat and Amingaon are going on?

**Shri Alagesan:** I think I answered that question. The hon. Member has in mind the route via Parbatipur. I have said that it is still under the consideration of the Pakistan Government.

#### Harnessing of Godavari River

\*1356. **Shri Viswanatha Reddi:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madras have requested the Centre to investigate the possibility of harnessing the Godavari river with a view to take the water to South India after meeting the needs of Andhra area; and

(b) if so, the action taken, if any?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddi:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Chief Ministers of Madras and Andhra Pradesh have expressed identical views both with regard to the taking up of the project at an early date, as also the urgency of the matter?

**Shri Hathi:** I have read reports to that effect. But to the question whether the Madras Government has requested the Centre to investigate, the reply is 'no'. That Government has not yet approached the Central Government. But I have read reports in the newspapers about these statements.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddi:** Am I to understand that no official request has been received either from the Andhra Pradesh Government or from the Madras Government?

**Shri Hathi:** We have not received any scheme from the Madras Government. I do not know about Andhra Pradesh. I will enquire.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddi:** May I know whether it is a fact that sometime ago there was a proposal for integration of the Godavari and Krishna river valleys by letting the waters of Godavari into the Krishna at the higher reaches?

**Shri Hathi:** That is a scheme which really was taken up during the investigation of the Nandikonda scheme, now the Nagarjunasagar scheme. The whole question of utilising the rivers in the southern zone, that is, Krishna, Godavari and Pennar, has been investigated during those stages by the Central Water and Power Commission. Those investigations are even now being carried on by the Commission.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddi:** May I know whether the feasibility of the scheme has been proved or not proved?

**Shri Hathi:** It could not be said whether it is proved or not proved, unless we get the final results of the investigations.

**Shri Balakrishnan:** Supposing the Madras Government makes a request, will the Centre consider it favourably because the reaction of the Andhra Pradesh Government is very friendly and favourable?

**Shri Hathi:** The Government of India will give all technical assistance to any State Government.

#### International Labour Organisation Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference

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\*1358. { **Sardar Akarpuri:**  
          **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether India attended the meeting of the International Labour Organisation Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference held at London during September-October, 1956;

(b) if so, the number of persons who attended the Conference; and

(c) the decisions arrived at Conference?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Nine.

(c) No decisions were to be taken by this Conference as the meeting was only preparatory to the full session of the Maritime Conference to be held in 1958.