

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether this consignment of rice from UAR will be on a barter basis or on rupee payment basis?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is under certain conditions. The payment for rice shall be made in non convertible Indian rupees to be utilised for financing additional exports of Indian goods to the UAR.

Shri Tyagi: The hon. Minister has said just now that he does not want to give the exact price. I am surprised. After the agreement has been arrived at, the price must have been fixed. Why does he not take the House into confidence?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We may enter into negotiations with several other countries for import of rice and so it is not desirable. If the House insists, I can give it but the House may kindly consider whether it is desirable.

Shri V. P. Nayar: How much of these 50,000 tons will be shipped by Indian ships?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The entire quantity will be shipped in vessels chartered through the Central Chartering Committee of the Transport Department.

Shri Vajpayee: The hon. Minister is not prepared to give the price of rice. May I know how it compares with the price that we are paying to the other countries?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have said that it is not more than the price that we pay for Burma rice.

Shri Radhedaal Vyas: May I know whether this rice will be sold in our country at the subsidised price or it will be sold on no-loss-no-profit basis?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It cannot be said that it would be on the basis of no-loss-no-profit. We sell Burma rice at the rate of Rs. 16. We will consider at what price this rice has to be sold.

All India Super Grid for Power Generation

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Shri Ram Beddy:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 722 on the 6th December, 1960 and state the nature of further progress made so far for establishing an All India Super Grid for generation and distribution of electricity?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The results of the Network Analyzer studies undertaken by the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Mysore have been made available to the Central Water and Power Commission who are examining them. The report from Madras is awaited. Preliminary work in connection with combined Network Analyzer study for the Southern Region as a whole has also been commenced by the Central Water and Power Commission.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know whether any priority has been fixed for establishing the zonal grids?

Shri Hathi: The priority we have fixed is for the southern zone.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know with the coming of the all India super grid whether we will bring uniformity in the supply of electricity to the agriculturists at concessional rates?

Shri Hathi: Not yet.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: What steps are we taking in this connection?

Shri Hathi: A committee is being set up to look into all these various things.

Shri Kasliwal: The hon. Minister has said that this will be for the southern region. What would be the total quantity of electricity which will

be generated and distributed after the entire all India super grid has come into operation?

Shri Hathi: I have not got the figures at present. But all the power in all the southern zone will be connected through the super grid.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: While introducing the Electricity Bill, the Government announced that they are going to have an all-India super-grid. How long will it take for them to have this super-grid installed so that we may have equal price for all types of electricity?

Shri Hathi: We are starting with the southern zone. That will be taken up by the end of the Third Plan or even the Fourth Plan and then we can go to the other zones.

Shri Anthony Pillai: Will there be a uniform tariff rate for the electricity supplied in the southern zone when this grid comes into being?

Shri Hathi: That will be considered at that stage.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know if all the three States mentioned—Andhra, Mysore and Kerala—have agreed to come into the all-India super-grid system in the southern region?

Shri Hathi: By all means. They have agreed and they have started the work of investigation.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: If so, will there be self-sufficiency in that region?

Shri Hathi: I cannot say whether there will be self-sufficiency or not because the demand is increasing day by day. But the States have agreed.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know why it is going to be called an All India Super Grid when you are going to have one grid for South India and another for another region? Moreover I want to know why this hope is being given to the public when you are not

sure of having it in the Third or even the Fourth Five Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: This is a preliminary step to the All India Grid. Because we are starting from the southern zone we call it the Southern Region Grid, but ultimately it is going to cover the whole country.

Shri Achar: There is a proposal now only for the Southern Grid. May I know whether there are any other proposals being contemplated for other regional grids in the north in Punjab or in Bengal?

Shri Hathi: In fact, this question of having one All India Super Grid was considered by the Seminar and the Board of Co-ordination of Ministers, and all the States have agreed. So in contemplation there is the idea to have an all India Super Grid.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government can give an assurance now that after the grid system comes into operation the tariff rates for electricity, which are now cheaper in States like Kerala, will not be enhanced?

Shri Hathi: I think that should be the reasonable or logical consequence, but I cannot give an assurance now.

Shri Shankaraya: May I know whether the formation of this grid is confined only to thermal power or hydro-electric power or both?

Shri Hathi: It will be both.

Shri Narasimhan: May I know the reason why this experiment has been started only in one zone and not in the other zones also in view of the obvious advantages?

Shri Hathi: It is because they are for linking transfusion connections in this zone.

Shri K. S. Ramaswamy: How are the existing grid systems in the States working?

Shri Hathi: There is actually no grid system existing. We call it "inter-linking system". What you call "grid system" is actually not there.