

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The out-lay for the Second Plan period was Rs. 185 lakhs, which was utilized in full.

(c) Detailed information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 64].

(d) In general the work has progressed satisfactorily. Most of the works started during the 2nd Plan period have been completed and the rest have been carried over to the Third Plan.

(e) The Government of Kerala have not so far, submitted their over-all long range plan but they have furnished an outline of their programme for anti-sea-erosion works to be undertaken during the Third Plan period.

National Highways in Kerala

3519. { **Shri Kunhan:**
Shri Kodiyan:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount allotted for National Highways in Kerala during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) how much has actually been spent; and

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Rs. 126.59 lakhs.

(a) Rs. 99.30 lakhs.

(c) National Highways in Kerala State are aligned mostly along the existing roads and the short-fall in expenditure is due to delay in acquiring land owing to public opposition in some cases.

Recruitment on Railways

3520. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri Nek Ram Negi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh recruitment for Railway services in any grade particularly class III and class IV services is not done directly;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all the candidates have to go through employment exchanges;

(c) whether Government are aware that very negligible number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates are sent for recruitment by the employment exchanges; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railway (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). During the twelve months from April 1960 to March 1961, on an average 19,413 Scheduled Caste and 2,733 Scheduled Tribe applicants were submitted every month by the Employment Exchanges throughout the country against the vacancies notified to them by various Government and non-Government employers. It is not known exactly how many of these submissions were made against Railway vacancies, as separate record is not kept by the Exchanges in respect of such submissions.

Thermal Electric Generating Plants

3521. { **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:**
Shri Punnoose:

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

(a) whether the proposal of the Kerala Government to have thermal electric generating plants in the State has been considered by Government;