

Project was Rs. 13.17 crores. The estimated further requirements for completing the works is Rs. 1 67 crores.

(d) The project was sanctioned in 1958 and the increase in cost is due to (i) increase in costs of materials, labour and equipment; (ii) increase in scope of the project from 2 units of 9 MW to 3 units of 9 M W and civil works for the 4th unit ; (iii) Labour troubles ; (iv) Damages due to floods in 1964 and in 1968 to the approach roads and some structures.

Salt Scarcity in Assam

7375. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some traders who were allotted salt from Assam did not lift their quota at the proper time which was one of the causes of salt scarcity in Assam ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken against those traders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) and (b). Owing to the influx of refugees from Bangla Desh, some shortage of salt was felt in the recent months in Assam, and at the instance of the Government of Assam, the Railway Board allowed movement of 6495 tonnes of salt (equivalent to 433 wagons) from the West Coast under priority traffic, as a special case. However, upto the end of July, 1971, the traders moved only 3165 tonnes of salt (equivalent to 211 wagons) mainly due to the inadequate supply of covered wagons. The Government of Assam has been requested to direct its nominees to obtain their requirements of salt from Calcutta. In the circumstances, the question of taking steps against these traders does not arise.

Supply of salt to Assam and Meghalaya

7376. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the salt allotted to Assam and Meghalaya is mainly from Calcutta

depot and is of very inferior quality but the price is higher than that of western coast and Joypur depot :

(b) whether Assam Government has been pressing for a long time for supply of sufficient quantity of Western Coast and Joypur salt together with allotment of wagons for transportation of the salt from Western Coast to Assam ; and

(c) what is the difference in price of salt from Calcutta Zone and salt from Western zones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) Under the Zonal Scheme for distribution of salt, North-Eastern Regions, including Assam and Meghalaya, are to obtain their requirements of salt from Calcutta. Salt which is transported to Calcutta by ship for this purpose from the West Coast and Tuticorin is *not* of inferior quality, although its price is slightly higher than the price of salt obtained from the West Coast and Rajasthan by the all-rail route, on account of higher transportation charges.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The difference is about Rs. 25/- per tonne.

Expenditure incurred and Man-Power and Man-Hour lost in digging work at Kanpur Yard

7377. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a pit dug out by Assistant Engineer, Kanpur for purpose of Sewage in West end of Kanpur Yard ;

(b) what is the amount of expenditure and requisits man-power and man-hours in this digging ;

(c) whether this pit construction has been closed after a lapse of a fortnight or so ;

(d) what is the amount of expenditure and requisite man-power and man-hours in its closing ; and

(e) the actions taken against the officers responsible for such construction and closing resulting in wasteful expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 1020 ; 340 man-days.

(c) No.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Yard at Chunar

7378. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a yard constructed at Chunar ;

(b) whether this yard has been rendered useless now-a-days and the officer who has saved the maintenance expenditure on it awarded ;

(c) whether there has been any objection by the Government Audit in connection with Chunar Yard construction ; if so, what ; and

(d) whether the officers who got this yard of Chunar planned and constructed, have been found guilty of defective planning and wasteful expenditure and if so, the action proposed or taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Expenditure on Construction of Juhi Yard

7379. SHRI AZIZ IMAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a yard recently constructed in Juhi at a cost of about Rs. 28 lakhs with a further expenditure for its maintenance ;

(b) whether initially a sum of Rs. 23 lakhs was got sanctioned for the

construction of this yard and Rs. 5 lakhs through additional demand ;

(c) whether there has been any objection by the Government Audit against this construction recently ; if so, what ;

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the responsible officers ; and

(e) the steps being taken to avoid such wasteful expenditure in future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

मध्य प्रदेश में बिजली की आवश्यकता

7380. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री यह बराने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में बिजली की आवश्यकता के बारे में हाल में कोई अनुमान लगाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता होगी और कितनी बिजली सप्लाई किये जाने की सम्भावना है ; और

(घ) क्या मांग और सप्लाई में कोई अन्तर है और यदि हां, तो कमी को पूरा करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही करने का प्रस्ताव है ।

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बैजनाथ कुरील) : (क) जी, हां । मध्य प्रदेश में विद्युत की आवश्यकताओं का पुनरवलोकन, राज्य अधिकारियों के साथ सलाह करके, हाल ही में किया गया है ।