

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):

(a) A cut of 50 per cent on supply of power to industrial consumers and commercial establishments and 25 per cent on domestic consumers was imposed from 11th December, 1965. No power cut has been imposed on agriculturists, and certain other essential industries and undertakings have also been exempted from this power cut.

(b) All industries, except Defence service establishments, printing presses engaged in printing daily newspapers, petrol pumps and petrol storage installations and ice and cold storage plants are affected by this cut.

(c) The power cut is likely to have resulted in some unemployment; the details are not readily available.

(d) The first unit (18 MW) of the Sholayar Project and two units (50 MW each) at the Sabarigiri Station are expected to be commissioned by March, 1966. This will ease the power shortage to a large extent. Besides, with a view to provide thermal backing to the hydro-electric capacity of the State, a scheme for establishing a thermal plant at Cochin is also under consideration.

Sea Erosion on West Coast

268. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that American experts have given suggestions to defend against the evils of sea erosion which is threatening the west coast of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the recommendations will be implemented immediately?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):

(a) The two American experts whose services were obtained by the Government of India, have studied the problem of sea erosion in Kerala and

at Versova Beach in Maharashtra and have offered certain suggestions to tackle it.

(b) The important recommendations made by the experts are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-5481/63].

(c) The Government of Kerala have initiated action for collection of necessary data as recommended by the Experts and for procurement of necessary equipment etc. Construction of groynes has been discontinued till complete studies of their effects on the down-drift sites are made. An experiment on beach nourishment has also been carried out.

The recommendations made by the American expert regarding Versova Beach erosion are being considered by the Government of Maharashtra.

Energisation of Qullandy-Korapuzha Line

269. Shri A. V. Raghavan: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the energisation of the Quilandy-Korapuzha line in the Calicut district of Kerala has been delayed for want of approval from the Power and Telecommunication co-ordinating Committee at Jabbalpur;

(b) if so, the steps taken to expedite the sanction; and

(c) how long the matter has been pending with the committee?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):

(a) to (c). In July, 1963, the Kerala State Electricity Board approached the Power Telecommunications Co-ordinating Committee for the approval of the proposed QUILANDY-KORAPUZHA 11 kV line. Pending the approval of the Power Telecommunications Co-ordinating Committee, the Kerala State Electricity