

SHRI BANSI LAL : We are undertaking a project under which the speed of trains between Delhi and Agra and Delhi and Kanpur would be stepped up.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, it is a fact that one-third of the Railway track, i.e., 22,000 kilometres of railway track, is overaged and most of the steam engines whose production has been stopped since long are overaged.

MR. SPEAKER : Experienced, Sir.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : So, may I know from the hon. Minister what steps he proposed to take to replace all the overaged railway track and all the overaged steam engines ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BANSI LAL : Sir, the railway track will be renewed in a phased programme of 10 years and the steam engines will be phased out by the turn of the century.

Karnataka's Offer to Withdraw Objections on Telugu Ganga Project

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*785. **SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :**
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka is reported to have recently offered to withdraw its objections to the Telugu Ganga Project being built on the river Krishna provided Andhra Pradesh gave an undertaking that it would utilise a quantum not exceeding 25 per cent of the surplus waters in the river ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereon ; and

(c) whether an amicable settlement is likely to be reached in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir, if the parties agree.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Sir, may be the Karnataka Government have not agreed to withdraw the objections because it was reported in a section of the press. That is why I asked the question.

Anyway, the Telugu Ganga Project becomes a tricky affair in the sense that for this project to draw water to Madras city the Tamil Nadu Government agreed to share 60 per cent of the project. The project which was agreed to by the Government was to carry only 15 TMC fit, from Srisaillam project through a channel of 1500 cusecs. Now, the scope of the entire project has changed and it has become a gigantic project. Now, it is to carry 11,500 cusecs of water. Naturally, the scope of expenditure also would be increased. Has the Government of India verified from the Tamil Nadu Government whether they would share the increase in cost also, 60 per cent-wise ? Don't you feel it necessary to ask them also even before considering this project ? My point is, the scope of the project itself is changed. The expenditure is also to increase.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We are not utilising it for cultivation purposes. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : You don't talk to them. You put the question. That is all.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I would like to know whether the Government of India verified from the Tamil Nadu Government as to whether the Tamil Nadu Government is going to share the increased expenditure also.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already heard it. If it does not arise, he can say that it does not arise from the main Question. It is not binding on him.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, may I inform the House that the Prime Minister, when he last visited Andhra and Karnataka, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had talks with the Prime Minister,

The subject was discussed also at Bangalore and it has now been agreed that the official level meeting of the three States should be convened. And we have convened a meeting of the three States' officials on 28th of this month. We have invited Tamil Nadu Government officials also for this meeting and we hope to resolve the crisis.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : My apprehension is, all-through the Government of India adopted a policy of 'ad hocism' and yielding to pressure.

I am very well within any knowledge to utter these words. Throughout after independence, wherever there was pressure, they yielded and cleared the projects. Now, Sir, why I am telling this is, the Bhachawat Tribunal award consisted of scheme A and scheme B.

I am putting the question. The subject is like this. I have to tell these things. The Telugu Ganga project is neither in scheme A, nor in scheme B. There projects submitted by the Government of Karnataka which are covered under scheme B. Why is the Government of India so eager to consider Telugu Ganga project, which is not under any scheme, whereas it has not considered the Karnataka projects, which are submitted under scheme B, under the plea... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : There is a drinking water problem in Madras city.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister whether he would consider and clear projects under scheme B submitted by Karnataka.

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you repeating it now? You have already asked it. You have already put the question. Don't repeat it now. Let him answer.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I want to know whether he would clear projects submitted under scheme B by Karnataka and notify the projects under scheme B also.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, may I inform the hon. Member, through you, that the final award of the Bhachawat Tribunal does not mention about scheme B. If scheme B is to be brought into operation, a river valley authority is to be established. Without that, scheme B cannot be introduced.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Sir, pending amicable settlement between the three State Governments, whether any amount has been spent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh towards this project pending the Bhachawat award and if so, what is the total amount spent? Is there any supervising body set up to supervise such works as per the Bhachawat Award?

I want to have two answers from the Minister.....

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right, now. He will answer.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, strictly speaking, the question does not arise from the main Question.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I have asked the total amount spent on this project. I am asking this point. The Minister has to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : He says, it does not concern the main Question. Shri Sarfaraz Ahmad.

**Working of Lala Ram Sarup T.B. Hospital,
Mehrauli**

*786 **SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Lala Ram Sarup T.B. Hospital, Mehrauli, established in 1953, is now finding it difficult to run due to shortage of funds as it is faced with heavy liabilities on account of dues to the local bodies etc. ;