

up, but the loss has also gone down in Hyderabad and gone up in Hardwar. Does it mean that the more we produce, the higher is the loss?

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY : It is not necessarily so. As I said, the Hardwar plant has not completed its gestation period. The Hyderabad plant is expected to break even in 1971-72 and the Hardwar plant in 1975-76.

Canal from Patna to Tamilnadu to Link Ganga and Cauvery

*1099. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to invite U. N. experts to examine the details of the project for constructing 2000-mile long grand feeder canal from Patna to Tamil Nadu linking Ganga and Cauvery and also to make an on-the-spot study ;

(b) whether his Ministry had made any feasibility study of the project before taking the above decision ;

(c) the nature of the new irrigation potential that will be generated and the cost involved thereon ; and

(d) when the U. N. experts are likely to commence their work ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d). Preliminary studies indicate that monsoon water in the Ganga near Patna can be transferred to other areas in the country where there is great demand for additional irrigation by a combination of pumped and gravity canals making use of natural water courses and existing or proposed reservoirs, wherever practicable. Such an integrated National Water Grid will also provide advantages for augmenting supply of drinking water and improvement of navigational facilities. Before making detailed investigations for determining the feasibility of the Project, the

Government of India have decided to avail of the advice of U. N. Experts. The request of the Government of India has been registered with U. N. and it is expected that the experts will commence their work in about 3-4 months' time.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : I should congratulate the hon. Minister for this very ambitious scheme that he is envisaging to take up. In the background of this I should like to know whether a preliminary survey had been made by the Government in this matter and if so what is the total outlay that is expected to be spent on this project and in how many years this scheme will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : We have made preliminary studies from the maps only. Before we undertake detailed survey on the field actually, which will take about 9-10 years, we want to consult the United Nations. We have requested them to send a team of four experts and we expect they would arrive in about 3-4 months from now. After their preliminary inspection and advice, we shall take up more detailed investigations.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : The hon. Minister says that the U. N. experts are coming. Unless a preliminary assessment and survey has been made, how can this be done? If this whole thing goes through what will be the total cost according to their preliminary estimates? In how many years do they expect this to be completed? The 100 mile long Rajasthan canal has not been completed in ten years. This is 2000 miles long. How much time will it take and what is the total outlay?

DR. K. L. RAO : I submitted already that we have preliminary studies from maps only. If I give some information to the hon. Member based purely on paper studies, I am afraid it will not be useful. If I say that it will cost about a thousand crores, the hon. Member may feel panic. When we make some detailed investigations, it may be possible for us to reduce the length of the canal ; the actual field survey will show whether the length of the canal will be smaller or more. The height to which water is to be pumped might be much less. We should not rush with costs estimates before detailed surveys. We should have a

fairly detailed report. I do not want to give the estimate of costs on the basis of map studies only. We are requesting the United Nations to give us general advice on the project on such information as we are going to give them and also to give their idea whether the project is worth investigating in detail and so on.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Has he consulted the different States in this matter to avoid inter-state disputes later on ?

DR. K. L. RAO : There are about seven States involved and as far as I know the Chief Minister of various States have welcomed the idea ; they are anxious to contribute some money towards the investigation of the project. I do not think that anybody will object to this.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : जब 2,000 मील लम्बी कैनल गंगा से निकाली जाने वाली है, पटना होकर कलकत्ता से इलाहाबाद तक नैवीगेशन होने वाला है और सारा सामान स्टीमर से आने वाला है तब क्या सरकार ने यह पना लगाया है कि जब गंगा का पानी सूखने लगेगा तब कैसे नैवीगेशन होगा ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Hon. Member referred to Bihar. The main problem of Bihar is more water, not less water. What we are trying to do is to take water at the time of maximum floods, only during three or four months and pump that water and store it up all along in the plateau. It is not a question of taking water during the dry season of 7 or 8 months of the year. It is only during three or four months or may be two or three months when the river carries flood waters. Then only we shall tap it, not at other times. There is no question of the hon. Member from Bihar being anxious. He has got too much water there.

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : Under the scheme of linking Ganga with Cauvery, will the surplus waters of perennial rivers like Mahanadhi, Godavari, Krishna, etc. which are in between, be taken into consideration ?

DR. K. L. RAO : It all depends on the amount of water available. Especially in the summer months, peninsular river carry little water. This happens due to erratic rainfall also and that is why we have got to have these link canals all the way from the Ganga. Ganga

is the only river which has got surplus water so that we can use it.

As far as this project is concerned, these canals will cross all these various rivers on the way over the plateau and plains of India. Whenever we find there is deficiency in a particular river, say, Narmada or a river like Mahanadi or Krishna,—if there is deficiency in that particular river, in that particular area, water will be fed. That is the idea. It is like a tap.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Shifting of South Eastern Railway Headquarters Office and Railway Service Commission to Orissa

*1085. **SHRI M. M. JOSEPH :**
SHRI DEVINDER SINGH
GARCHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to shift the headquarters of the South Eastern Railway and the office of the Railway Service Commission to Orissa as recently urged by the Chief Minister of Orissa ; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question of shifting these offices has to be examined ?

Fulfilment of Plan Targets

*1086: **SHRI T. BALAKRISHNIAH :**
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what proportion of the total Fourth Plan Central outlay will remain to be spent during the last two years of the Plan ; and

(b) whether any special steps are contemplated for the fulfilment of the Plan targets ?