

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Is it that coal from the NDCD and BCC to the DESU was supplied through the private parties, through middlemen and if so, what are the reasons?

MR. SPEAKER: Do not get up without my permission.

DR. K. L. RAO: Coal is not supplied through any other agency; coal is supplied directly by them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is also doing the same thing.

River Valley Project in Kerala

+

*28. **SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:**
SHRI G. JANARDHANAN:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the River Valley Projects submitted by the Government of Kerala during 1971 and 1972 under Centrally sponsored Scheme have been sanctioned; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

STATEMENT

Irrigation is a State subject. There is no Centrally sponsored scheme of irrigation and irrigation projects are planned, investigated and constructed by the State Government as a part of their developmental plans. Central assistance to State Plans is provided in the form of block loans and grant for the State Plans as a whole and is not related to any individual head of development or project.

The Government of Kerala proposed the following new irrigation projects during 1971 and 1972 for inclusion in their Developmental Plans:—

Name of Project		Estimated Cost Rs. Lakhs	Benefit in Lakhs acres
1	2	3	4
MAJOR			
	Banasurasagar	1137.10	0.59
	Tirunelli	650	0.22
	Kerala Bhawani (Tail race utilisation)	805.00	0.80
MEDIUM			
	Karapuzha Irrigation	389.00	0.23
	Attappady Irrigation Project	476.00	0.153
	Noolapuzha	290.00	0.21
	Manjat	318.00	0.12
	Thendar	299.00	0.15

Kerala Bhawani Scheme and Karapuzha Irrigation Scheme is under examination in the Central Water and Power Commission. Replies to the Comments of the Central Water and Power Commission on the other projects are awaited from the State Government.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: In view of the fact that the Silent Valley Project, which is a river valley project cum power generating project, has been submitted as early as 1961 and in view of the fact that Kuttiyadi project is over and the Idikki arch-dam is being completed and all that machinery and surplus materials can be used for the Silent valley project, will Government consider giving immediate technical sanction to the Silent Valley project?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): The Silent Valley Project is a power project. It has been considered by the Technical Advisory Committee and has been approved by it. It is awaiting Planning Commission's sanction and I hope it will be sanctioned shortly.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: In view of the fact that apart from Sabarigiri, Malampuzha and Neriamangalam projects which have been already submitted, there are 10 projects which have been submitted during 1971-72 for the consideration of the Central Government and for its processing, may I know whether any of the schemes will be sanctioned in the near future and if so, which are they?

DR. K. L. RAO: The projects mentioned by the hon. member are all under scrutiny. The main trouble in Kerala and Mysore is that a large number of projects have been undertaken and the spill-over in the fifth plan will be anything like Rs. 75 crores while the plan provision for irrigation projects for the whole fourth plan is only Rs. 25 crores. The projects they have undertaken are very many; of course, it is good, but from the point of view of the resources, one has to think how best to complete these projects as quickly as possible. On the top of these, there are many other new projects which the Kerala Government has submitted. The question is one of resources. One of these, the Edamaniai project, which is a multi-purpose project, will be preferred and probably sanctioned after scrutiny.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Considering the acute shortage of power in the nation, may I know whether the Government will provide enough resources to Kerala for generating more power and supplying it to the common grid? Will these schemes submitted by Kerala Government, including the irrigation schemes, be sanctioned this year itself?

DR. K. L. RAO: Kerala is a surplus State even today and it has been helping Tamilnadu very much. I hope this year also after the north-east monsoon rains are over, Kerala will be helping Tamilnadu in January by supplying more power. I agree with the hon. member that in so far as Kerala has got surplus hydropower, it will be necessary for us to consider what assistance should be given to Kerala for completing these power projects, which means addition to the southern region.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: My question is about sanctioning of new projects.

DR. K. L. RAO: As I said earlier, there is little chance for new projects because there is a large spill-over of existing projects and unless they are completed, it is not really fair to undertake more responsibilities.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA: May I know the criteria for Centrally-sponsored irrigation and power projects?

DR. K. L. RAO: When more than one State is concerned with a project, we take it up as a Centrally-sponsored project. So also, when there is urgency for producing power. Then, in places like Manipur and Tripura where the projects are small and the area is far removed we go in for Centrally-sponsored schemes. A general policy is being evolved for such schemes for the Fifth Plan.

Malaviya Committee Report on O&NGC

*29. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:

SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of Government to the recommendations made by the Malaviya Committee on Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and