

DR. K. L. RAO : It is true that development in Tehri town has been stopped because it was doubtful whether we will be submerging the town or not. I think, very likely, the project is going to be taken up and the town has got to be submerged. We cannot help it.

Survey for Coastal Railway from Ernakulam to Quilon via Alleppey

*189. **SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenses for the survey to construct coastal Railway from Ernakulam to Quilon *via* Alleppey ;

(b) when the survey is likely to be completed ; and

(c) whether Government propose to start the construction work as soon as the survey report is received.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) The estimated cost of traffic survey is Rs. 83,324/-.

(b) The survey will be completed by 31-8-1971.

(c) Not practicable, as the report has to be examined and decision taken.

SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Taking into consideration the fact that the foreign exchange earning traditional industrial products of Kerala, like cashew and coir products, could be easily and cheaply sent to Cochin Port and exported from there to foreign countries of this Railway line materials, will the Government assure this House that construction of line through the coastal area *via* Alleppey will be taken up ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : No assurance can be given.

SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : In view of the fact that Kerala has very little railway line, will the Government give top priority to this line.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : In my budget speech I have met the needs of Kerala to some extent by proposing conversion of metre gauge line from Cochin to Trivandrum. This line which is a gauge-

posing is a parallel one. If that conversion takes place, this will become superfluous.

SHRI CHANDRAPAN : The Minister in his last speech on the Railway Budget told that he will give special priority to the needs of Kerala in regard to railways. Not a single new rail line has been constructed there in Kerala for the last 15 years. Not a single kilometre of railway line has been constructed. Is it not a fact to show that Kerala is being neglected in this matter too ? I would like to know whether the Government would give top priority for constructing this line from Quilon to Cochin considering the industrial significance of that area.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : He has to understand that this line would be a parallel line. I have already said about the conversion taking place. Will there be enough traffic for two lines within a distance of 20 miles ? I don't think so. This line he mentions is not a new line in the sense that there is no railway line in the area. This will be a parallel line.

SHRI CHANDRAPAN :—rose.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot get anything more out of the Minister !

SHRI CHANDRAPAN : I want to know whether it is not a fact that there is not even a single kilometre of railway line constructed in Kerala for the past 15 years ?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Prabodh Chandra—Question 190, Member absent. Also, Members absent in regard to Questions 191 to 194. We pass on to Question No. 195.

Dispute on Bansagar Dam Project, Madhya Pradesh

*195. **SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER (SINCHAI AUR VIDYUT MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the dispute arising between Bihar and Madhya Pradesh Governments about the construction of Bansagar Dam Project in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the main points of the dispute ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to settle the dispute ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SINCHAI AUR VIDYUT MANTRI) (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). The Madhya Pradesh Government have sent the Bansagar Project for acceptance by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the developmental plans of Madhya Pradesh.

The Government of Bihar have protested against the Bansagar Project as proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh involving diversion of the Sone waters to the Tons river, on the ground that it will affect the large irrigation system in Bihar from the Sone Lower down where the position of supplies is stated to be already critical.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have been urging that the Bansagar Project is the only source of irrigation to the famine stricken plateau areas in Mirzapur district and that the Bansagar Project proposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government should be modified to make provision for irrigation in this area also.

Efforts are being made by engineers of the Central Government in consultation with engineers of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar Governments to evolve revised proposals for the Bansagar Project which might be acceptable to all the three States.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH : May I know the volume of water the proposed dam will contain and whether the dam will dry up some of the rivers in Bihar ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Exact quantity of water varies from place to place. I don't know at what point the hon. Member wants this information. The river Sone passes through 3 States, Madhya Pradesh, U. P. and Bihar. We should know the requirements of various States before we take up the project.

SHRI D. N. TIWARI : Has any representation been made by the Bihar Government about this project ? If so, what is it that they have asked for ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The Bihar Government has even passed a resolution in the Assembly that the project in Madhya Pradesh should not be taken up, and the other States have also sent representations. But whenever three States are concerned, we must first discuss with all the three States and try to arrive at a solution which is acceptable to all.

श्री रामदेव सिंह : क्या भारत सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की सरकारों के मंत्रियों के साथ बैठ कर इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ निर्णय किया है ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Not yet ; at the moment, the matter is being discussed between the engineers, and I hope to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers in the next one or two months.

श्री नाथूराम अहिरवार : अभी जितनी भी मध्य प्रदेश की योजनायें चलती हैं उन में हमेशा अड़ंगा डाला जाता है और उन्हें खटाई में डाल दिया जाता है जैसे कि वह नर्मदा बांध योजना ट्रिव्युनल में दे दी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बाण सागर योजना को जिसे कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रारम्भ कर दिया है तो क्या उस योजना को भी केन्द्रीय सरकार खटाई में डालने जा रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य नें तो क्वेश्चन की और भी कम्प्लीकेट कर दिया ।

Economic Recovery of West Bengal

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*197. **SHRI VISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA :**
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRI)** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have initiated any plan for economic recovery of West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the different schemes that have been drawn up ; and

(c) the time by which that scheme will be put into effect ?