

**Upper Sileru Hydro-Electric Project**

\*1342. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3597 on the 28th April, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have since approved the Upper Sileru Hydro-Electric Scheme; and

(b) if so the present stage of the scheme?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a). Not yet, Sir

(b) Does not arise

**Waste Land**

\*1343. **Shri Naushir Bharucha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the pressing need to grow more food, any suggestions have recently been circularised by the Union Government to State Governments to bring all waste land or cultivable land under plough,

(b) whether the Union Government are aware that in Bombay State large tracts of cultivable land have not been utilised for food production, and

(c) what the Union Government propose to do in the interest of greater food production?

**The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a). No Sir The State Governments are already aware of the importance of bringing waste land under plough and are already taking action in this direction with the financial assistance available from the Centre for the purpose under the Grow More Food Rules. However, the Government of India have recently appointed a Committee of Experts consisting of Central & State Government officers to make a survey of cultivable waste land still available in the country and to suggest measure for their reclamation.

(b) According to latest statistics available, cultivable waste land in Bombay State is 4.62 million acres

(c) Necessary action will be taken on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee of Experts mentioned in reply to part (a) above.

**Railway Line from Pandu to Siju**

\*1344. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether a survey of a Railway line from Pandu to Siju area of the Garo Hills district was undertaken;

(b) if so, how far it has proceeded, and

(c) whether there is any prospect of connecting Pandu with Bongaigaon via Goalpara by an extension from Pandu?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). A survey for a line connecting Pandu to Amjanga was done in the past. The revision of this survey has now been completed, and for the portion beyond from Amjanga to Darangiri, a survey has also been ordered.

(c) No Sir The proposal is not included in the Second Five Year Plan approved by the Planning Commission.

**New Postal Stamps**

\*1345. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to issue new postal stamps bearing pictures of Tamil classical writers like Valluvar, Kambar and Elango and national heroes like Bomman, Mahakavi Bharathi, V.O. Chidambaram, Thiruveeka in the near future; and

(b) if so, when and whose pictures will be published?