

Sholapur-Chitradurg National Highway via Hospeth; and

(b) what progress has been made so far?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) About Rs. 75.00 lakhs are expected to be spent during the 3rd Plan period.

(b) Development work has not yet pleased to state:

Shifting of Bridges from Sitimani Railway Station

1168. { Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the site of the existing Railway Bridge at Sitimani Railway station on Mubli-Sholapur line in view of the proposed Upper Krishna Valley project; and

(b) if so, what will be the cost of a new bridge and when the work will be started?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) By the proposed construction of a Dam by the Mysore Govt. across the River Krishna on the down-stream side of the existing Railway bridge, a part of the Railway line near Sitimani Station including the bridge would be submerged in the reservoir formed by the Dam and would necessitate the diversion of the Railway line for a length of nearly 13 miles including construction of a new bridge across the Krishna River. The matter is still under examination in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

(b) It is not possible to give the cost of the new bridge etc. at this stage.

Conversion of Metre-Gauge Line from Hubli to Sholapur

1169. { Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the meter gauge line from Hubli to Sholapur into a broad gauge line in view of the expansion of the cement factory at Bagalkot, the movement of high quality of Manganese ore and the general rise in trade and commerce; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): No.

(b) Does not arise.

Geophysical Investigation in Mysore State

1170. { Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been Geophysical investigation in some areas of famine stricken district of Bijapur in Mysore State, with a view to explore the possibilities of tapping the underground water;

(b) whether the orders were issued to have an exploratory tube-well near Manankalagi in Indital Bijapur District of Mysore State; and

(c) what action has been taken in the matter

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes. A geophysical survey was carried out by the Geological Survey of India in the Bijapur District in 1955-56. The prospects of ground-water availability in large quantities were reported to be poor.

(b) Drilling was, however, recommended at a site near Manankalagi.