

August 2, 1973
**Rajya Sabha Report on Nuclear Conference in Ann
Arbor, Michigan**

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Summary:

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha on the nuclear energy conference in the United States specifically research, educational reactors, technology, social impacts of nuclear power, and others.

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SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: A Board is contemplated, but the final estimates are not yet ready for scrutiny. It is thought that a Board can be appointed as soon as the estimates are ready and scrutinised. They have now submitted the estimates and they are being examined.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it a fact that due to lack of proper planning and co-ordination and overall control there has been a very huge waste on this project?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I have no information.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: Is it a fact that this Chambal Project was first started at one site and then changed to another?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That was before 1948, before the integration had taken place.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: The financial difficulties of both the Governments concerned in this Project are such that they cannot fulfil the whole project of Rs. 50 crores. Is there any plan to see that this scheme is not left off in the middle?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The question of finance will be considered as soon as the estimates are finalised.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is there any difference of opinion about the working of the Project between the two participating Governments?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No, I don't think.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether the scheme has been approved by the Central Water and Power Commission and okayed?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The report is being examined by the Commission.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know how much has already been spent be-

fore even the scheme had been examined?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Madhya Bharat about Rs. 169 lakhs; Rajasthan about Rs. 59 lakhs.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Can it be assumed that work on this Project is continuing without even final estimates and plans?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The State Governments have proceeded. So far as the Central Government is concerned, we have not finally approved of it.

NUCLEAR ENERGY CONFERENCE IN THE U.S.A.

*19. **SHRI M. VALIULLA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given in the Council to my Unstarred Question No. 519 on the 13th May 1954 and state:

(a) whether the team of scientists who represented India in the Nuclear Energy Conference in the U. S. A. has submitted any preliminary or final report to Government; and

(b) what were the main items discussed at that conference?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (**SHRI-MATI LAKSHMI MENON**): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) The important subjects discussed at the Conference are: Research and Educational Reactors, Materials of Reactor Construction, Reactor Technology, Reactor Fuel Refining and Preparation, Social Impact of Nuclear Energy, Application and Uses of Radioactive Products, Nuclear Power Reactors, Automatic Computation in Nuclear Engineering, etc.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Who were the scientists who represented India at that Conference?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Seven scientists represent India at that Conference. They were:

1. Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar
2. Dr. Brahm Prakash
3. Dr. R. Ramanna
4. Mr. A. S. Rao
5. Dr. Jagdish Shankar
6. Dr. K. S. Singwi
7. Dr. G. S. Tendolkar.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Originally it was proposed that nine scientists should go. How is it that only seven went?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Two of them did not go.

PROF. G. RANGA: They did not wish to go?

(No reply.)

EX-BURMA GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' CLAIMS

*20. **SHRI M. VALIULLA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of *ex-Burma* Government employees who have put in claims for pension, gratuity and arrears of pay;

(b) when the question of settlement of their claims was taken up by the Government of India with the Government of Burma;

(c) how many of these claims have so far been settled; and

(d) what is the total extent of the claims of these *ex-Burma* Government employees?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Some 2,500 claims including claims against quasi-Government bodies have been put in through the Embassy of India, Rangoon.

(b) No specific discussions have taken place on this question between the Government of India and the Government of the Union of Burma.

(c) and (d). Not known to the Government of India.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the total amount involved in this?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already stated that it is not known to the Government of India.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is there any discussion regarding the rate and mode of payment?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I would ask the hon. Member to refer to my reply to (b).

PROF. G. RANGA: What action do the Government of India propose to take in order to help these people? Do they propose to initiate any talk with the Government of Burma or do they propose to make any representations?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The claims are not always routed through the Government of India. Sometimes the applicants write directly to the Government of the Union of Burma; sometimes they channelise their applications through our Embassy in Rangoon and sometimes through the Burmese Embassy in India.

PROF. G. RANGA: What is being done to help them?

(No reply.)

ASSISTANCE TO EMPORIA

*21. **SHRI M. VALIULLA:** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of assistance rendered by Government to the emporia for the sale of products of cottage industries situated at—

- (i) New Delhi;
- (ii) Madras;
- (iii) Cuttack;
- (iv) Gwalior; and
- (v) Indore; and

(b) at which other places such emporia are situated in India and in foreign countries?