

Stage 2 of Lakshapana scheme begins in 1952 . (1951, December 29). Daily News.

STAGE 2 OF LAKSAPANA SCHEME BEGINS IN 1952
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International Firms Bid For Tenders
WORK WILL COST OVER RS. 40 MILLION

THE second stage of the Laksapana Hydro-Electric Scheme which is calculated to produce an additional 25,000 k.w. is to commence next year.

The preliminaries with regard to the calling of tenders are now being gone through by the Ministry of Transport and Works.

In response to world-wide notices, engineering firms from various countries including the United Kingdom, U.S.A., France, Germany, Italy and Japan have signified their intention to tender for this project which is estimated to cost over Rs. 40 millions.

The scheme consists of damming the Kehelgamu Oya at a spot about five miles away from Kotelawala Bridge and constructing a reservoir. Water from this reservoir will be run into the existing reservoir at Norton and then conveyed through the tunnel now in use under Stage 1 to the headworks of the Scheme to generate hydro-electric power.

NEW PIPE-LINES

New pipe-lines and generating machines will be installed for this purpose. The borings for the construction of the dam were taken some time ago.

In addition to the second stage of the scheme there are two more plans of development yet ahead for the completion of the whole scheme.

These are the third and fourth stages of the scheme and consist of the development of hydro-electric power by damming the Maskeliya Oya.

It is estimated that the combined output of both these stages will be 75,000 kw.

NO HEADWAY

No headway has been made in this work as it is felt that appreciable progress should be made with the Castlereagh project before an effort is made to embark on the last two stages of the scheme.

The Minister of Transport and Works, Sir John Kotelawala, is making good use of the experience gained in the construction and completion of Stage 1 of the scheme.

The new procedure of announcing on a world-wide scale that tenders are to be called for the construction of this scheme is in order to get the best tender from a reputed firm of engineers from any part of the world without restriction.

DISCUSSION

He will now proceed to discuss with the Consulting Engineers to the Hydro-Electric Scheme the credentials and capabilities of the firms that have indicated their intention to tender and forward to those recommended the tender forms for the contract.

This method also enables representatives from these firms to make early visits to Ceylon so as to obtain a clear idea of the nature of the work they are tendering for.

The selection of the final tenderer will be done by the Ministry of Transport and Works, which will be advised by a representative from the firm of Consulting Engineers who will come specially for the purpose.

The preparation of the tender forms and the selection of the tenderers are expected to take over four months.