

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have attempted to reply to that question by saying that the position is being examined. The difficulty is that there are places where palaces are available out residential accommodation is not available, and vice versa. Therefore, unless both the office and residential accommodation is available at a particular place, that place cannot be considered as suitable for shifting some of the offices outside Delhi.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether the residential accommodation which may be built near such palaces and buildings will be cheaper than the accommodation which will be built in Delhi?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is a hypothetical question, and it is not very desirable to go on spending large sums of money in places far from each other and scattered all over the country. If there is any particular place in the mind of the hon. Member I can get it examined.

KOSI PROJECT (RAILWAY LINE)

*1336. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the mileage and estimated cost of the Railway line to be constructed for the Kosi Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Railway line is designed to pass through important commercial centres and Administrative Headquarters of Nepal Government; and

(c) if so, what are those places and what percentage of cost will be borne by the Nepal Government?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (c). The Project Report is still under preparation, and the final alignment of the railway line will be decided as soon as the Project Report is finalised.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know by what time the report will be finalised?

Shri Nanda: It may not take more than two or three months, but I am not quite sure.

IRON, STEEL AND CEMENT

*1337. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present stocks of iron, steel and cement in India;

(b) whether they are sufficient to meet the existing requirements of the

country for agricultural and other purposes; and

(c) whether there is shortage, the extent thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 51.]

(b) No, Sir.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY

*1338. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of the construction of the Government Housing Factory, New Delhi;

(b) the annual target of its production; and

(c) its annual maintenance cost?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the report on the working of the Government Housing Factory placed on the Table of the House on 4th June 1952 in reply to Starred Question No. 463.

(b) The Factory is not producing anything at present and its annual target of production has not yet been fixed.

(c) The maintenance cost incurred by Government after the Factory suspended production in January 1951 upto 30th April 1952, works out to about Rs. 4,73,000 per annum. The Government will cease to incur any maintenance expenditure in future, if the scheme to form a Company consisting of Government and an Indo-Swedish Firm as partners materialises, when the Factory will be leased to the said Company.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What is the number of houses produced in the factory in 1951 and 1952?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have already said in the course of my answer that the factory suspended production from January 1951. So how can there be houses produced?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know the reason for the suspension of production?

Shri K. C. Reddy: For several reasons we had to terminate the contract with the Structural Engineering Co. Ltd., and since the termination of the contract the factory has suspended

production. Now we are carrying on negotiations with another firm and as soon as an agreement is entered into with them production will begin again.

Mr. Speaker: I may just inform hon. Members that a good lot of questions were put on this matter during the time of the Provisional Parliament and it would be better to get the whole history by a reference to the previous proceedings rather than put the same questions once again.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if the Government are going to place on the Table of the House the reports of those two Committees which investigated into this Pre-fab factory?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot promise anything at present. There are certain developments which may likely take place in the near future in the light of which it may not be desirable to place the reports on the Table of the House at present.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the total loss the national exchequer suffered on account of this housing factory?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. This question was put and answered several times.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Has the Swedish firm given any guarantee that it will not be a failure just like the British firm?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The agreement is not yet finalised.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the answer given by the hon. Minister that a huge sum of Rs. 4 lakhs is spent every year on maintenance, may I know what steps Government will take to immediately bring it into production so that this unnecessary wastage may be ended?

Shri K. C. Reddy: We are taking every possible step and it will be a matter of days, I believe, before the agreement with the Indo-Swedish firm will be finalised.

PAPER

*1339. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of paper produced in India and the quantity imported from abroad during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52; and

(b) the number of paper producing factories in India and their location?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the

House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 52.] The production in 1951-52 was 135,091 tons and the imports were 27,047 tons.

(b) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 5 by Shri S. C. Samanta on 19th May, 1952.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the total requirements of the country?

Shri Karmarkar: The total requirements estimated at present are 196,000 tons of paper of all sorts.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the percentage of our shortage?

Shri Karmarkar: Our production is 135,000 tons and our requirements are 196,000 tons—so the percentage can be calculated.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know if Government are taking any steps to make the country self-sufficient in this regard?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, Government are taking all steps to see that the country is made self-sufficient as early as possible and it is expected that by 1957 we will be largely self-sufficient.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जितने कारखाने अभी तक कागज बनाने के चल रहे हैं उन के सिवा कितने कारखाने और हैं जो कि अभी बन रहे हैं और उन का काम कब से शुरू हो जाने की उम्मीद है ?

श्री कर्मकार : मैं जानता हूँ कि एडी-शनल यूनिट इस वर्ष में नया पैदा होने वाला है और जो यूनिट्स इस समय है उन का काम बढ़ने वाला है ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what the Government is doing in order to supply the required newsprint for the Indian press?

Shri Karmarkar: I think an earlier question was answered with regard to a newsprint mill in Madhya Pradesh which is supposed to have a capacity of 30,000 tons as against our requirements of 64,000 tons.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is the Minister aware that there is a nucleus of a newsprint factory in Vuyyur in Andhra and may I know whether any grant-in-aid has been asked by the