

(b) whether licences have been issued for the same; and

(c) what would be the capacity of this proposed new plant?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). The Government of India have received an application for grant of a licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, for the setting up of a 20,000 tons aluminium smelter, with fabrication facilities for about 16,000 tons, in Kalahandi District (Orissa). The application has been rejected on account of non availability of adequate supplies of bauxite and power at the site.

Indian Embassy in France

*264. { **Shri Morarka:**
Shri Rajeshwar Patel:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some officials in our Embassy in France have been charged with embezzlement; and

(b) if so, the amount involved and the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes; an officer of the Embassy has been charged with misappropriation of public funds.

(b) The amount involved is approximately 11,700 New Francs, (nearly Rs. 11,300). The officer concerned was transferred to headquarters and suspended immediately on arrival. Disciplinary proceedings have been instituted against the officer and are in progress.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

*265. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the **Minister of Labour and Employment** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.

1726 on the 13th December, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken final decision in regard to enhancement of Statutory rate under Employees' State Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Watch Factory at Bangalore

*266. { **Shri Rami Reddy:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for the setting up of a watch factory at Bangalore have been finalised;

(b) when the construction of the factory is expected to be started and when it is expected to be commissioned;

(c) what is the cost and capacity of the project;

(d) what will be the price of a watch to be manufactured there; and

(e) what are the terms and conditions of the Indo-Japanese agreement in this respect?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The factory will be set up by the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. The construction of buildings will be commenced shortly; the factory is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1961. The cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 250 lakhs. The capacity will be 240,000 watches per annum on single shift or 360,000 on multiple shifts. The price of watches could be worked out after production begins.