

**Supply of Machinery for the two paper Mills in Assam**

\*342. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:†  
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:  
DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAK-  
RABARTI:  
SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-  
DARA MENON:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the suppliers with whom orders for the sup-

ply of machinery for the two paper mills proposed to be set up in Assam have been placed; and

(b) by when the machinery is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) In respect of the items for which orders have so far been placed for the Nowgong and Cachar Projects, the names of the suppliers are indicated below:—

| Items (Machinery & Spares)                               | Supplier  |
|--|---|
| 6 Power Boilers (3 for each mill)                        | M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), a Government of India Undertaking. |
| 2 Recovery Boilers (1 for each mill)                     | Do.   |
| 4 T. G. Sets (2 for each mill)                           | Do.   |
| 2 Paper Machines (without size press, one for each mill) | M/s. Jessop & Co. Ltd. (A Government of India Undertaking).                   |
| 2 Paper Machines (with size press, one for each mill)    | M/s. Utkal Machinery Ltd.   |

(b) The contractual delivery dates for the above items are as follows:—

|  | Nowgong Project               | Cachar Project             |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 6 Power Boilers (3 for each mill)                        | Oct. 1979 to April, 1980      | Oct. 1980 to April, 1981   |
| 2 Recovery Boilers (1 for each mill)                     | December, 1979                | December, 1980             |
| 4 T. G. Sets (2 for each mill)                           | April, 1979 to July, 1979     | January, 1980 to May, 1980 |
| 2 Paper Machines (without sizes press one for each mill) | July, 1978 to September, 1979 | July 1979 to July, 1980    |
| 2 Paper Machines (with size press one for each mill)     | July, 1978 to September, 1979 | July 1979 to July, 1980    |

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: I have no supplementary.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: Sir, there is no doubt that the orders for some items have been placed. But the fact remains that considerable delay has already taken place in setting up these two paper mills. May I, there-

fore, ask as to when these mills are likely to be completely set up in order to start production?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the ground work on the Nowgong paper mill has already started. As I have informed the hon. Member, machinery has been ordered both for

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Ambika Soni.

Nowgong and Cachar mills. It will take us about 3½ to 4 hours before the Nowgong project is completed. The work on the Cachar project will start some time late next year and it will take 3½ to 4 years after that to complete the project.

DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRA-BARTI: May I know from the hon. Minister whether instead of placing orders for the machinery with one or two firms only in the private sector, whether the Minister had considered placing the order for such machinery with M.A.M.C. at Durgapur and other factories in the public sector?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: So far as Jessops is concerned, it is not a private sector firm. Jessops is managed by the Government of India. The orders for the machinery were placed after inviting tenders from various firms inside the country.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOU-DHURY: It appears from the statement and from the replies given by the Minister to supplementaries that the Cachar paper mill will be commissioned one year later than the Nowgong paper mill. In view of this, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he has received representation from the Assam Government and also from his party unit at Cachar District for simultaneously commissioning both the projects? If so, what is the decision? Are they considering the proposal?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: A number of representations have been received both from the Assam Government and from various public institutions, including political parties and citizens' committees. So, the only problem is a logistics problem and an organisational problem of having an adequate number of people, engineers, technicians and others, who can take on this job and complete the two projects in Assam at the same time. We are, Sir, organisationally not equipped to handle work of such a magnitude simultaneously. That is the only rea-

son why there has been a slight phasing and there is no other reason.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: Sir, the hon. Minister has made a statement about the availability of machinery for the two timber and pulp projects. May I know from the Minister whether some machinery will be procured from outside and if so, whether orders have been placed and with which countries?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: No machinery is being procured from outside. We have contracted with the domestic companies to supply the machinery for these units.

#### Shri Laldenga's talks with Government

\*343. DR. V. B. SINGH:  
SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:†  
SHRI HIMMAT SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks have been held recently between Shri Laldenga, a leader of the rebel Mizo National Front and the representatives of the Central Government;

(b) if so, what were the matters on which the talks were held; and

(c) what was the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) to (c) Talks for implementation of st Juy, 1976, understanding reached with Shri Laldenga have been continuing and are progressing satisfactorily.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, is it a fact that Mr. Laldenga came here some time in June from Rome via London and met the Mizoram Janata

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.