

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Neither of those questions arises from this question. I am not in a position to tell you in exact terms what the total capacity is. The total capacity is very large because the India Security Press does many things. It prints currency notes, it prints stamps and very many other different things. It has sufficient capacity to meet all our varied requirements today.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: What about the total expenses over this?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I cannot give you that information. This question does not in any way suggest that I should have this information. It only relates to orders placed from the neighbouring countries.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I would like to know the earnings by the Security Press in the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 as a result of carrying out these agreements with those neighbouring countries.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I can tell you the value of the orders in 1975-76 and 1976-77. In 1975-76, Bangladesh—revenue stamps worth Rs. 2,87,250, Bhutan—aerograms worth Rs. 9,000, Nepal special postage stamps worth Rs. 90,000, Sri Lanka—postal orders worth Rs. 78,650. In 1976-77, Nepal—special postage stamps worth Rs. 2,29,800; aerograms worth Rs. 3,15,000.

Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad

***724. SHRIMATI HAMIDA**

HABIBULLAH:

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI

KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:†

SHRI PRAKASH

MEHROTRA:

SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

SHRI SAWAISINGH

SISODIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mould cover making plant required for the manufacture of currency paper, has been installed in the Security Paper Mill, at Hoshangabad;

(b) whether the Plant has been commissioned;

(c) if so, what is the quantity of currency paper so far manufactured at the Plant; and

(d) what is the amount of foreign exchange saved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Uptil now 2000 reams of water-marked currency paper have been manufactured on one mould cover manufactured in the Plant.

(d) 2 mould covers have already been manufactured and 3 more are likely to be manufactured at the Plant by the end of March 1978, thereby saving Rs. 4 lakhs in foreign exchange.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चंडावत : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सिक्कोरिटी और करेसी के लिए इस तरह के पेपर का टोटल कन्जम्पशन कितना है और अब तक बाहर से हमें कितना मगाना पड़ता है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the total consumption of the paper in India and whether it has been possible for us to supply that—that is the question.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, this question does not arise from the question put. The question refers to the mould cover making plant required for manufacture of currency paper. So I can give full information regarding the mould cover making plant. I cannot give you information in terms of

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Lakshmi Kumari Chundawat.

the quantity of currency paper made here. But generally speaking we are today producing currency paper sufficient to meet our requirements.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत : इस मोल्ड के बनाने के बाद क्या बाहर से इम्पोर्ट करने की कतई जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Yes, we shall be self-sufficient. As soon as we have all the mould covers—this plant has started working—we will be self-sufficient.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much amount has been spent on this security paper mill in Hoshangabad and whether this mould cover making plant was thought of in the original project. I would also like to know why after so much delay this plant has been installed.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Well, Sir, I cannot tell you why it is that we did not do so in the beginning, but certainly we decided on getting this mould plant established in the mill here in this country. I may add that in March, 1962, the Government of India entered into an agreement with Messrs. Portals of U.K. for setting up a paper mill. The mill was commissioned in 1967-68 with a rated annual capacity of 2,700 metric tonnes. With the introduction of 7-day working since 1976, the rated capacity today has increased to 3,500 metric tonnes. Then we had entered into a contract with Portals for another mould machine for the security paper press in 1968. The specific understanding was that if and when Government of India decided to manufacture mould covers in India for the use of manufacturing note papers, Portals would give suitable guidance for this purpose. And taking advantage of that, we decided to have this mould plant in this country, which, again, was established with the help of Portals. In 1971, the Planning Commission approved the inclusion of the mould cover manufacturing plant at a cost of Rs. 26.25

lakhs which included a foreign exchange component of £ 35,000 towards the import of equipment, fees etc. I cannot tell you why it was not thought of right at the beginning, but evidently as soon as it was, we have established this mould plant.

Joint ventures in African countries

*725. **SHRI HIMMAT SINH:**

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN

CHOUDHURY:†

SHRI HARSH DEO

MALAVIYA:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Indian industrialists recently visited some African countries;

(b) if so, what are the names of the members of the delegation;

(c) whether these industrialists have identified certain areas for joint ventures in African countries and have submitted a report to that effect to Government; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

An Indian Industrialists delegation sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) visited Senegal, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya between 12th October to 2nd November, 1977.

The following were the members of the delegation:—

1. Shri K. N. Modi, Modi Enterprises, Modi Nagar. *Leader*

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Nripati Ranjan Choudhury.