

हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड, भोपाल

*789. श्री गुरुदेव गुप्त : क्या उद्योग तथा सम्भरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1964-65 के वित्तीय वर्ष में हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड, भोपाल को कितना लाभ अथवा हानि हुई; और

(ख) इस कारखाने में इस समय कुल कितने विदेशी टेक्नीशियन कार्य कर रहे हैं तथा उन में से प्रत्येक पर माहवारी वेतन एवं सुविधाओं पर पृथक्-पृथक् कितना कितना रुपया व्यय होता है ?

†[HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD., BHOPAL

*789. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profit earned or loss sustained by the Heavy Electricals Limited, Bhopal during the financial year 1964-65; and

(b) the total number of foreign technicians working in this factory at present; and the amount spent on each of them per month towards their salary and the facilities provided to them respectively?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) The loss of the Heavy Electricals (India) Limited, Bhopal during the financial year 1964-65 is estimated at Rs. 756.68 lakhs.

(b) There are 38 technicians of Associated Electrical Industries and English Electric of U.K. appointed on the staff of the technical consultants of the factory. The average amount spent on their salaries and other facilities works out to about Rs. 6,800 per month for each specialist.

†[उद्योग तथा सम्भरण मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री बिबुधेन्द्र मिश्र) : (क) हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स (इंडिया) लि०, भोपाल को 1964-65 के वित्तीय वर्ष में हुई हानि का अनुमान 756.68 लाख रु० लगाया गया है ।

(ख) इस कारखाने के तकनीकी परामर्शदाताओं के पद पर ब्रिटेन के एसोशियेटेड इलेक्ट्रिकल इण्डस्ट्रीज तथा इंग्लिश इलेक्ट्रिक के 38 टेक्नीशियन नियुक्त किये गये हैं । प्रत्येक विशेषज्ञ के वेतन तथा अन्य सुविधाओं पर खर्च की गई औसत राशि, 6,800 रु० प्रति मास के लगभग आती है ।]

SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA: May I know, Sir, what is the total investment on the Heavy Electricals so far and why the loss, or why the profit is so meagre?

AN HON. MEMBER: There is no profit, it is loss.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point? Do you want to know why the loss is so high or so low?

SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA: What is the total investment on the Heavy Electricals and why the loss is so high?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It will be over Rs. 40 crores. I am saying it out of memory. It may be a little more or less. As regards the loss, when the project report was prepared, it was accepted by the Government as well as by this House that this concern would run under loss right up to 1968 or 1969. The accumulated total loss is about Rs. 32 crores.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the situation has improved after the recent visit of the British technical team and the British Minister for Overseas Development?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I would not say that the improvement at Bhopal was due to the visit of any particular person, but it was due to the efforts of the management and of the Government of India.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: May I know how much foreign exchange could be saved because of the Heavy Electricals and may I know further whether we have been able to produce machines of an indigenous nature, which could not be imported from foreign countries, in this factory?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: That is exactly what is being done. We are manufacturing a number of things, i.e., transformers, switch gears, motors and other things in this and other factories in this country. Things which were imported earlier are now being manufactured in this country and we are saving a lot. It would be difficult to give it in terms of money at present.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: The Minister was saying that in all these years the loss will come up to Rs. 32 crores. May I know from the Government, when the plan was made, whether they had any inkling of the possibility that on an investment of Rs. 40 crores, they would lose another Rs. 32 crores, so that the plant instead of costing Rs. 44 crores will be costing Rs. 72 crores? Only after 1971 any commensurate result will be available. And one thing more may I know whether the plants that we have at Ranipur in Hardwar and at Hyderabad will have the same story to tell?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It was stated that by 1970-71 we shall break even, after running into losses. In subsequent years from 1967-68, we will start earning small profits which will gradually wipe off the previous losses

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया : क्या श्रीमन् को यह मालूम है कि जो विशेष सुविधाएं विदेशियों को दी गई हैं उनमें से एक यह सुविधा दी गई है कि वे वहां पर अपने कान्वेन्ट स्कूल प्रारम्भ करें जब कि वहां मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने स्कूल खोल रखे हैं और उन कान्वेन्ट स्कूल के द्वारा वे सांप्रदायिक भावना को बढ़ावा देते हैं ? क्या ऐसी भी सुविधाएं उनको दे रखी हैं ?

श्री टी० एन० सिंह : उनके लिये खास कोई एजुकेशन का प्रबन्ध नहीं है। उनके तो कुल पैंतीस-छत्तीस आदमी हैं।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया : कान्वेन्ट स्कूल उनसे खोला है।

श्री टी० एन० सिंह : कान्वेन्ट स्कूल की अलग बात है।

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: The hon. Minister stated that there are some 38 foreign experts working in the Heavy Electricals. May I know since when they have been working there, whether they have been working there since the very inception of the factory and, if so, whether training of our personnel in the particular trades has not been completed?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: Some of them have been working from the very beginning. So far as our trainees are concerned already a batch has gone to the U. K. for training. We have already some trained people and another batch has gone to the U.K. also.

श्री रामकुमार भुवालका : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इतना बड़ा इन्वेस्टमेंट करने के बाद सरकार को इसमें इतना बड़ा नुकसान क्यों होता है और क्या कारण है कि वह इसमें फायदे की बात नहीं सोचती ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is part of the scheme.

SHRI D. THENGARI: It appears from the statement of the hon. Minister that the losses actually incurred are much more than the estimated losses. Has the Government found out what factors are responsible for the additional losses?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: It was so but for the last two years the loss is less than what was expected according to the project report.

SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA: May I know, firstly, how many Indian technicians have been trained in foreign countries and whether any of them have replaced the foreign technicians so far, and, secondly, what is the difference in grade of foreign technicians and technicians who have taken foreign training?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I think there is a misunderstanding about the whole position. Most of these officers from abroad who have come have not come here actually to produce things in the factory. They are here to advise us, to guide us and for consultation purposes. Therefore, so far as manning our own personnel is concerned, technical and others, it is being planned and they are all trained and they are taking their places also. They are working as understudies for a few months.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: May I know what was the actually estimated loss, how much losses were already suffered by us, and how much losses are further expected to be suffered by us by the year 1971?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: We have already given answer to that question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said it is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 32 crores.

SHRI A. D. MANI: When does the Minister expect this factory to be run only by Indian personnel, because he knows that there was a lot of public feeling in Bhopal against foreign technicians who were held responsible for the losses of the factory? May I ask the Minister whether the foreign technicians have complained in writing about the alleged inefficiency of Indian personnel, and what reply has been given by the Heavy Electricals Establishment to this unfounded charge?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I do not think they have made any accusation as such against our Indian staff. But it is our desire and endeavour to become self-reliant as early as possible. It is very difficult to give any dead line for that purpose, but I can say that the progress in this direction is really satisfactory according to me in these one or two years that I have been associated with this.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know whether physical production norms are yearly fixed for this factory and other nationalised undertakings as is done in socialist countries where they have to produce a certain number of items, a certain number of products, every year, and if such norms have been fixed, have they been fulfilled in the last two years regardless of profit or loss?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: Every year we fix a production target for each department of that factory for each kind of material, and we try to do our best. But there are certain limitations which may be in the shape of foreign exchange difficulties which may limit production without any fault on the part of the workers there.

SHRI RAMGOPAL GUPTA: May I know if the Heavy Electricals have obtained permission from their collaborators to export their products? If so, what is the quantum of export per year?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: As far as I know there is nothing like a restric-

tion on export possibilities. But today we are mostly manufacturing for our own requirements.

SHRI R. P. JAIN: May I know whether the losses are due to the fact that there are insufficient orders with the factory?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I would not attribute losses to insufficient orders.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the bad state of industrial relations is one of the reasons for the losses suffered by the Heavy Electricals and, if so, what steps are being taken to improve the same?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: The hon. Member himself is aware of the industrial relations position at Bhopal, and I think he knows that the position is now much better.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know whether it is not a fact that certain very serious allegations have been made in regard to some people there, some officials there? The Managing Director himself has got some of the papers from some people including Members of Parliament. May I know the results of the enquiry?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I would like to have specific points from the hon. Member, then I can supply him with the answer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Deliberately I did not give it, I did not want to say this thing, I would not like it even now, as high officials are involved. Is it not a fact that the trade unions there submitted a note to the Managing Director, and is it not also a fact that one of these notes was sent to the Managing Director again through some Members of Parliament on the request of the Managing Director? I take it that these are known to the Minister.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I personally have no information of any such

thing communicated by the trade unions.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know, in the light of the fact that nearly Rs. 800 crores are being expected by way of profit from public sector industries by the Planning Commission, how many such white elephants are there which are not going to yield any profits for many years to come?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: The hon. Member himself is a very experienced industrialist and knows the white elephants which are being produced in the private sector also.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: I am sorry, Sir. This is not a reply to my question. Whenever there are white elephants in the private sector the hon. Member is welcome to name them. I would like to know what is the position so far as Rs. 800 crores of profit which is expected from the public sector is concerned and how many such concerns are going to yield such profit. If not, for how many years?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: On the whole the record of the public sector in this regard has been good. That is what I would say. I would not like to boast.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: In view of the very heavy experience of the Heavy Electricals at Bhopal, what other steps are being taken to improve the conditions at Hardwar and at Hyderabad?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I can assure the hon. Member and the House that conditions both at Hardwar and other places—he has referred to Hyderabad—are quite good and the progress of the work has been according to schedule.

DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: What is the expectation of the Minister about the factory? When will there be no loss? In which

year he expects that there will be no loss?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It is expected that in another two years or so there should be no loss. It should start making profit.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Personally I was written to by the Managing Director to submit the list of officials against whom serious allegations there were together with the papers, and I complied with that request and sent the materials to him. I expected that some steps would be taken, that an enquiry would be made. Now I understand that the Minister does not even know that. How is it that when the Managing Director takes material on a private request through a confidential letter from a Member of Parliament, that matter is not placed before the Minister?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It only shows that they do not try into the correspondence of Members of Parliament with their officers.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, you kindly help me in this matter. Here I was asked to submit this thing in writing. Whatever material I had, I collected and sent him. I did not raise it at all in the House. Normally in such cases the matter should be brought to the notice of the Minister by the Managing Director because it involved very high officials. The charges are very serious. How is it that the matter has not been at all brought to the notice even of the Minister and may I know whether in such cases the Minister is not interested?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It will come to me in due course after full enquiry.

(Several hon. Members rose)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the House is not ready to oblige me

though I would like to oblige them. I pass on to the next question.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Sir, I wanted to put a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid I cannot allow; there have been very many questions.

IMPORT OF WARP KNITTING MACHINES

*790. { SHRI ABDUL GHANI:†
SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Kabir Woollen Mills of Ludhiana, Central Woollen Mills of Ludhiana, Krishnagopal Woollen Mill of Bombay and Shri Devpal Dhir of Ludhiana were allowed to import Warp Knitting Machines from Rupee Currency Area; and

(b) if so, from which country they imported the same and the names of the manufacturers of those imported Warp Knitting Machines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Import licences for import of warp knitting machines from Yugoslavia were granted to:—

- (1) M/s. Kabir Woollen Mills, Ludhiana.
- (2) M/s. Central Woollen and Silk Mills, Ludhiana (Prop: Shri Devpal Dhir).

No licence for import of warp knitting machines was granted to any party with the name of Krishnagopal Woollen Mill, Bombay. The name of the manufacturer is Karl Meyr.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Abdul Ghani.