

(b) The Dockyard is commanded by a Commodore of the Executive Branch.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Is it headed by a Naval Officer or by an engineer?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: It is headed by a Commodore of the Executive Branch but not an engineer. But he has under him an engineer who looks after industrial management.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: In view of the fact that the establishment and the maintenance of these Dockyard works mostly involve engineering work, would it not be better for engineers to head those establishments as is the practice in other countries?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I might inform the hon. Member that besides the engineering work, the Dockyard at Bombay also comprises the Naval Stores Department, Naval Armaments Supply Department and the Yard Department and they look after the handling of shipments, control of the crafts, etc. So, it is much more than engineering.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Can an engineering officer not look after these other establishments?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I have already said that an engineer looks after industrial management and we consider that a member of the Executive Branch would be better fitted to look after the whole work.

MANUFACTURE OF PEOPLE'S CAR

*39. { SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:†
SHRI A. M. TARIQ:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding the manufacture of People's car; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sitaram Jaipuria.

(b) whether there is any possibility of the car being manufactured during the Third Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) The question of the manufacture of a low cost car is awaiting decision at the highest level.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: The manufacture of a people's car is under consideration for so many years. May I know from the Minister how many more years it will take to consider this project?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: This has been under consideration since 1961 and now that the Finance Minister has returned from his foreign tour—and we know the result of that tour—perhaps it may be possible to take a decision soon.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: May I congratulate the hon. Minister on the change of the title of the car from "People's car" to "Low price car"?

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a statement made by a member of the Planning Commission that the proposal to manufacture of people's car has been shelved. . . .

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Not people's car.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: . . . and whether any decision has been taken, and if no decision has been taken, how is it that a member of the Planning Commission has made a statement which is contrary to the statement made by the hon. Minister just now?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Evidently, the member of the Planning Commission was referring to the recommendation made by the Planning Commission. But the recommendation of the Planning Commis-

sion is quite different from the decision of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sitaram Jaipuria.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: All my questions have been covered by the previous questioners.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: In view of the fact that it is being whispered in industrial circles that the Cabinet will shelve the issue, may I know whether it is correct or not?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I cannot anticipate the decision of the Cabinet.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Defence authorities have sent a proposal for manufacturing this people's car and, if it is so, what action has been taken on that proposal?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, the hon. Member is referring to some other matter. I am not aware of any such scheme.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May we know what makes the problem so intractable that they find it extremely difficult to come to a decision?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: This requires foreign exchange and does not form part of the Third Plan projects. That is why there is the difficulty.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: Is there any proposal to manufacture a people's car which would not go beyond Rs. 5,000 in price? I mean a car which is to be produced with Russian collaboration.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The whole matter is for the decision of the Cabinet. I am sorry I am unable to give any details.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, when a decision will be taken by the Cabinet?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Soon.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether any representation has been made by the Hind Motors that no concern for manufacturing a people's car should be started in the public sector?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not aware of any such representation and that representation will not affect in any way the decision of the Cabinet.

EXPANSION OF BURMAH-SHELL AND ESSO REFINERIES

*90. { SHRI ARJUN ARORA†:
SHRI S. C. DEB:
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Burmah-Shell and Esso Refineries have been permitted to expand their output;

(b) if so, to what extent and on what terms; and

(c) whether these Refineries had any "hidden capacity" which has now been regularised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): (a) and (b). Subject to terms of negotiations being settled, these Refineries have been permitted to work upto their present installed capacity which is as under:—

Burmah-Shell	..	3.5 m.tons
Esso	..	2.4 „ „

(c) Increased efficiency in technical operation and addition of some incidental equipments and permitted installations led to expanded capacity. It has now been regularised on conditional basis.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Arjun Arora.