

(b) if so, how many civilian amputees are there in India and how many children and adolescent amputees have been provided with artificial limbs; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to start artificial limbs production centre for the civilian use other than the Poona Military Prosthetic Centre?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes. There is already a Prosthetic Workshop attached to the All-India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Bombay.

The Government of Madras too sanctioned in December, 1959, a Scheme for the establishment of an Artificial Limb and Orthopaedic Splint-making Centre and the Government of Uttar Pradesh propose to establish an Artificial Limb Centre during the Third Five Year Plan period.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it a fact that the prices of artificial limbs produced in Poona and Bombay are so high that people of ordinary means are unable to purchase them?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am afraid that the artificial limbs are yet more costly than we would like them to be.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Are there any plans for the production of inexpensive artificial limbs in the centres which will start functioning soon in Uttar Pradesh and other places?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am unhappy that I have not been able to follow the question. Would the hon. Member kindly repeat it?

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: I want to know whether the prices of artificial limbs to be produced in the factories licensed will be as high as those produced in Poona and Bombay.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: As I said, the prices of artificial limbs are high at the present moment but with greater production we are hoping that the prices will also come down. The larger the production, the lesser the price.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Sir, keeping in view the hardships of these amputees, is the Government intending to provide such limbs to the poorer people at a subsidised price?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should like to do that but when I get money.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is the hon. Minister aware that the amputees who have been provided with artificial limbs have become self-supporting and are no longer a burden on the society?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am in entire agreement with the hon. Member in this and the other questions. We want to encourage the production of artificial limbs and I am entirely at one with her. I wish it were possible to help the poorer sections of our community with artificial limbs because want of this strikes at their economic existence.

*256. [The questioner (Shri Maheswar Naik) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 1087-88 infra.]

*257. [For answers, vide cols. 1078-79 infra.]

*258. [The questioners (Shri Bhu-pesh Gupta and Dr. Z. A. Ahmad) were absent. For answer, vide cols 1088-89 infra.]

SECOND SHIPYARD AT COCHIN

*259. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether Government had any negotiations with Messrs. Howaldswerke for setting up the second shipyard at Cochin and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : The possibility of securing financial/technical collaboration from a foreign firm for the setting up of the second shipyard is still being explored and it will not be in the public interest to disclose the details of negotiations with any individual firm or organisation at the present stage.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Am I to understand that there are no foreign consultant or technical expert working anywhere in India now?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Sir, it has already been said that it is not in the public interest to give out what we are doing because this is a matter of competition and it is not right to say what we are doing.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What I am asking is whether Government is not already getting some technical help.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We have not yet got any technical consultant.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Sir, when will the work in regard to the Cochin Shipyard start?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We are actively pursuing this question, namely, exploring the possibility of securing technical and financial collaboration and as soon as this is over, we shall appoint such a firm as we think fit as our consultants for the drawing up of the project report.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: When will the work definitely start? Is there any time limit?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: No time limit can be given at the present moment

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has the Ministry any idea of the amount of

foreign exchange that would be required for this purpose?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That is given in the U.K. Mission Report. The estimated foreign exchange needed is about Rs. 5 crores out of a total expenditure of about Rs. 19 crores.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Did the Finance Minister in the course of his tour of the European countries in June last pursue this question any further?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The matter was brought to his knowledge but he did not, I think, discuss this matter.

PRODUCTION OF GROUNDNUT FLOUR

*260. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up any plants for the production of groundnut flour; and

(b) if so, where they are going to be set up and whether they will be set up in Public or Private Sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS) : (a) Yes. A proposal to set up two pilot plants for the production of edible groundnut flour of a capacity of 10 tons per day each is under consideration.

(b) The plants are proposed to be set up in collaboration with two existing oil mills at Bombay and Madras respectively, with assistance from UNICEF. The project thus envisages collaboration between Public and Private Sectors.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know the nutritious ingredient of this flour and edible cake?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It is a well-known fact that our average Indian