

SHRI S. C. DEB: What competition is there in the world in respect of colouring and quality of tobacco?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: There are many factors, such as quality, colour, taste, the chemical substances contained in the tobacco, and different people have different tastes.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: May I know the special reasons for the decline in exports during 1959?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The exports had been going up from year to year and 1958 was the peak year. Towards the end of 1958 and in early 1959, there was a failure of crops due to excessive rains in certain parts of Andhra. Therefore, sufficient quantities of tobacco were not available for export, that is, not to the same extent as in 1958.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Did the Ministry analyse the Rhodesian tobacco and find out the processes by which the Rhodesian tobacco out-did Indian tobacco?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Rhodesia has been a bigger supplier of tobacco to the U.K., as compared to India. The biggest supplier is the U.S.A., Rhodesia is second and the third is India. And we have been maintaining that position.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Sir, the hon. Minister has not answered the question whether the Ministry has examined the quality of Rhodesian tobacco.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: It has been examined. There is an Export Promotion Council. We know the quality and characteristics of Rhodesian tobacco. Our tobacco has certain other qualities. These depend on the climatic conditions and soil of a particular area. There are so many factors.

*491. [The questioner (Shri M. P. Bhargava) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2483 infra.]

**MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS WITH
WEST GERMAN
COLLABORATION**

f SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: *492. ^
SHRI M. S. GURUPADA L SWAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major venture for the manufacture of chemicals will be set up in India with West German collaboration;

(b) whether any agreement on this subject has been entered into;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the stipulated size and the estimated cost of the venture; and in what proportion the cost will be shared between the two countries; and

(d) whether the venue of the new venture has been finally selected; and if so, where?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

An agreement was signed on the 17th August, 1960 with a consortium of West German firms consisting of M/s. BASF, BAYERS, HOECHST & UHDE to set up a project for the manufacture of basic chemicals and intermediates in the public sector with a capacity of about 24,000 tons per year at an estimated cost of about Rs. 11 to 12 crores [excluding working capita] and the cost of township. Under the agreement, the West German consortium will provide technical assistance for a consideration of about Rs. 1-2 crores to be paid in the form of equity shares in the proposed company to be set up for implementing the project.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Maheswar Naik.

It has been provisionally decided to set up the proposed intermediates and Basic Chemicals plant at Apta-Kharpada near Panvel in Maharashtra State. The final selection of actual site will be determined in consultation with technical experts of the West German firms.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether it is presumed that the production capacity of existing firms in the line in India is not adequate, so that a kind of new venture of its type has been necessitated?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Actually it is not only not adequate, but it is non-existent. This will be the first project for the manufacture of basic chemicals and intermediates, where we could manufacture them by licensing smaller capacities in the private companies.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: The statement gives information regarding technical collaboration with a German firm, but it does not give any information regarding the supply of machinery and equipment. May I know, Sir, whether any agreement has been entered into with any foreign firm for the supply of machinery and equipment and, if so, what are the terms of the agreement?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The agreement was signed on the 17th August and we are already arranging to send the copies of the agreement to the Library of Parliament. I would request the hon. Member to go into the whole agreement which gives all the aspects of the project.

*493. [For answer, vide cols. 2473—75 infra.]

LODGING IN THE CONSTITUTION HOUSE

•472. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) what categories of persons are allowed to stay in the Constitution House, New Delhi;

(b) whether any non-eligible persons have been staying there since January 1, 1960; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to evict them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA):

- (a) (i) Members of Parliament;
 (ii) Government Officers;
 (iii) Guests of Members of Parliament^{for} short periods;
 (iv) A limited number of accredited Press correspondents and recognised artists and writers;
 (v) Any other person for a short period at the discretion of the Government subject to availability.

(b) and (c) Yes; a few persons who were allotted accommodation for short periods as guests of Members of Parliament, a Government Officer, and an Employee of a Government Corporation have stayed on in spite of their having been asked to vacate. Action for eviction of these persons under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1958, has been initiated. In the case of one ex-Member of Parliament—I think he is a former member of the Constituent Assembly—permission has been given to retain the accommodation till the 18th October, 1960, on medical grounds.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, the criteria for determining the eligibility of a person to stay-in the Constitution House?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I have given the list of persons who are considered eligible for accommodation.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Who decides questions about eligibility or otherwise?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: If there is any doubt, the Director of Estates refers it to the Ministry.