

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT:
The most appropriate system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said "most suitable." "What is most suitable?"—"The most appropriate." "What is most appropriate?"—"The most convenient."

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know what is most convenient for the Home Minister?

(No reply.)

INDO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT FOR EXPORT OF IRON-ORE FROM BAILADILA MINES

*73. **SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently entered into any agreement with Japan for exporting iron-ore from Bailadila mines; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of that agreement?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) An agreement between the Indian Iron Ore negotiating committee set up by Government and the Japan Steel Mission was signed on the 8th March, 1960. The following are the main terms of the agreement:—

(1) Supply to Japan of approximately four million tons of iron ore per annum from mines to be developed in the Bailadila area, for a period of fifteen years in the first instance from the middle of 1966, in addition to Japan's purchases of iron ore from Kiriburu mines under the agreement dated 19th March 1958 and other sources in India;

(2) Development of the mines, construction of the railways between the mines and the port of Vishakha-

patnam and mechanisation of the port facilities suitable for loading the quantity by India;

(3) Financial assistance equivalent to 21 million U.S. Dollars from Japan, on terms and conditions to be agreed upon, for the purchase of machinery, equipment and incidental materials which are not available in India;

(4) The price of iron ore to be fixed by negotiations each year as in the case of Rourkela-Vizag Agreement: and

(5) Maximum utilisation of Indian shipping for carriage of ore from India to Japan.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The production of steel in the Third Five Year Plan is to be increased to ten million tons and I think in that event our country would be in a position to export steel to other countries. That being the case, why is the iron ore being exported to Japan instead of steel?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: We have plenty of iron ore to export and it is necessary also that as soon as possible we should earn some foreign exchange. Because of the availability of adequate quantities of iron ore, Government have decided not only to export steel when we produce it but iron ore also as far as we can.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Would not the country earn more foreign exchange if we export steel instead of iron ore?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Perhaps, yes.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Suppose India will be in a position to export steel. In that case, if we export iron ore to Japan, we have to face severe competition from Japan. In that case, may I know whether the exports of India will be affected?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I do not think so, Sir. The steel that will be produced in the country will firstly be utilised by us and the surplus will have to be exported. But the question is of earning immediately some foreign exchange and therefore the policy of the Government of India is to sell iron ore if we can sell it outside.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: If we are to export iron ore after 1966, how can this country earn foreign exchange immediately?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: May I clarify one point, Sir? The hon. Member is presuming that if we do not sell iron ore to Japan, it cannot get it from anywhere else. That is not exactly correct. Actually, there is a surplus of iron ore all the world over and if we can sell iron ore to Japan, we should do it and Japan is not likely to purchase steel from us. So, it is really not a case in which by supplying iron ore, we are doing any special favour. It is a transaction to the mutual benefit of both the countries.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is it not a fact that we export the highest grade of iron ore and not keep it for ourselves for future use?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Whatever is required for our own use and for our steel plants is not being sold to Japan. As a matter of fact, this present contract for developing iron ore from Bailadila area is for export only. It is not near any of the steel plants, and none of the iron ore from this particular area will be for use in our steel plants.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: The Rajasthan ore, I think, is good for Japan's use.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is for Japan to decide, not for us.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if the Government have considered the various proposals for exporting pig iron instead of iron ore so that we can earn more foreign exchange by such export and if the Government have taken any step in that direction, to change the export from iron ore to pig iron?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is not always for the exporting country to decide as to which particular commodity it should export. Those who have to purchase have also a voice and in this particular case, just as we are keen to sell pig iron instead of iron ore, others are interested in purchasing iron ore and making their own pig iron.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how many agreements for export of iron ore to Japan have so far been entered into and whether the rates offered by Japan are more favourable than those offered by other countries?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Only one agreement has been signed—this Bailadila agreement. This is about the export of Kiriburu iron ore and the terms are as favourable as we can get from any country.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: The hon. Minister has just said that only one agreement has been entered into. May I know whether any other agreements are going to be entered into shortly or in the near future?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I referred to this only one agreement in regard to the Kiriburu iron ore to Japan. Besides this, there are other agreements also made between the Government of India and other countries for the export of iron ore.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: When there is so much resistance on the part of Japan to buy pig iron from us, may I know why the Government is not exploiting other markets? We

would like to sell pig iron instead of diverting the iron ore for export.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: That is a suggestion for action. We will certainly consider it.

SHRI M. M. SUR: At what price are we selling this iron ore? Is it fixed or does it vary?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The fixation of the price is according to a clause which leaves the negotiations to subsequent years when we are near the time of exporting it.

MODEL CENTRE FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF

*74. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a scheme for the establishment of a model centre for the education of the deaf has been under Government's consideration for the last four years but it has not yet been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): No, Sir; but a scheme for the establishment of a Training Centre for the Adult Deaf is under consideration.

†CLINICS FOR TESTING HEARING OF CHILDREN

*79. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Seminar on the education of the deaf, held at Mussoorie in September, 1955, recommended that clinics should be set up by the Central and State Governments in important cities to test the hearing of children and guide parents properly in all cases where deafness is evident or suspected; and

†This question and starred question No. 74 were taken together for answer with the Chair's permission.

(b) whether anything has been done about this?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Establishment of Audiological Clinics

On the advice of the National Advisory Council for the Education of the Handicapped a scheme for the establishment of a comprehensive audiological centre was included in the Second Plan. A detailed scheme prepared by an expert committee appointed for this purpose was considered recently by the National Advisory Council for the Education of the Handicapped, which suggested consultations with the Ministry of Health, which are in progress.

The Government of India have also invited applications for financial assistance from voluntary organisations wishing to develop specific services for the handicapped including the establishment of audiological clinics but no suitable application has been received, yet.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Now, Sir, I would like to add that there has been some delay in setting up this centre partly due to lack of accommodation in Delhi and partly due to lack of trained personnel for this specialised work. We have also been in touch with voluntary organisations. In fact we issued a press notice asking if any of the voluntary organisations would be able to take up this work. As a matter of fact it is our opinion that if this work could be taken on by the voluntary organisations it would be far more effective, but so far no voluntary organisation has come forward to take up this work.