

LOCATION OF THE FACTORY PROPOSED TO
BE SET UP BY THE INDIAN EXPLOSIVES LTD.,
CALCUTTA

*525. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision about the location of the proposed setting up of an Explosives Factory by the Indian Explosives Ltd., has been taken and if so, where it will be located;

(b) by when this factory is expected to go into production; and

(c) whether any foreign concerns are expected to render any help for the purpose by way of technical assistance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) The Indian Explosives Ltd. will establish their factory at Gumia, Hazaribagh District, Bihar.

(b) By the middle of 1958.

(c) Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. will render technical assistance to the firm.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, how much money is being invested in this concern?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The investment required is about Rs. 5 crores part of which has been raised as equity capital and part will be raised through loans.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: What items are proposed to be manufactured in this factory?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Blasting explosives and safety fuses.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Is it a fact that the I.C.I. are subscribing a very large part of this equity capital?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The I.C.I. is subscribing Rs. 160 lakhs out

of the sum of Rs. 267 lakhs which will be the initial equity capital.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether this permission to subscribe nearly 70 per cent, of the capital given to the I.C.I. is not against the general policy of the Government of India that foreign nationals should not be given more than 49 per cent?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: If the hon. Member is referring to the industrial policy, there is no such stipulation at all. It is true that we allow foreign capital only in certain sectors. But it is after consideration of all the policy matters involved that this permission was given.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: What is a blasting explosive as compared to an ordinary explosive?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Blasting explosives are mainly used for mining purposes, in making roads, power projects etc. They differ from military explosives like R.D.X. etc.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: How far will production from this factory meet the requirements of the country?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The present requirement, more or less, will be completely covered. It is proposed to manufacture about 5,000 tons of explosives per year which is the estimated requirement at present.

RECORD OF RIGHTS OF DEHS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN SIND

*526. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Dehs of agricultural land in Sind for which record of rights has been received from Pakistan and the number of Dehs for which record has not yet been received; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to obtain the remaining record at an early date?