

DR. B. V. KESKAR : Sir, these centres are meant to provide factual information to the public not only regarding the activities of the Government, the Five Year Plan activities etc. but also the activities that are taking place in the country in general. These centres generally consist of a library, a reading room and a reference section where anybody who wants to get a particular information regarding the activities of the State Government or of the Central Government can do so. The expenditure on any particular centre will certainly depend on how much the State Government concerned is ready to invest. There are certain centres like the one which we have opened in Delhi which is considered to be one of the best that exists not only here but even outside. There information is given and even research workers come and do research work.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are making a speech, Dr. Keskar.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: The hon. Minister said that information with regard to the activities of that State would be given. In that case, why was it, especially when the Central Government does not expect any information about the Central Ministries to be given, that the Centre had to go out of its way to help by giving 50 per cent. of the cost of these Information Centres ?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: It is not a question of giving information of that State only. These centres will give information about the activities in the country, both Central and State Government activities, as well as of other organisations.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SINGARENI COLLIERIES

*281. SHRI M. VALIULLA (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to extend financial assistance

for carrying out the programme of exploitation of coal resources of the Singareni collieries in the State of Andhra; and

(b) if so, to what extent.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Yes.

(b) The manner and the extent of financial assistance are yet to be decided

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the production that is expected after the help is given ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: It will be doubled. The production is 1½ million tons now. It is hoped that after the expansion programme has been completed with the central assistance, the production will be about 3 million tons.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Within what period are we going to achieve that target ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: In the Plan period /.<?., by 1961.

VISIT OF BRITISH HEAVY ENGINEERING MISSION

*282. SHRI M. VALIULLA (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the Minister for HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a British Heavy Engineering Mission visited India in October-November, 1956;

(b) if so, what were the main recommendations of the Mission; and

(c) what action has so far been taken on the recommendations ?

THE MINISTER FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The report of the Mission is awaited.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know the places that they visited. Sir?,

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
Sir, the British Mission went to Calcutta, Jamshedpur, Gomoh, Titagarh, Sindri, Chittaranjan, Bombay, Bangalore and Ranchi.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the types of industries envisaged to be stated ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
The Mission was not to start any industry; it was to advise on the setting up of heavy industries in the country.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Installation of what type of industry ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
Heavy engineering.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Of what nature ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
Heavy engineering machinery, manufacture of plants and equipment and all that.

PLANT FOR MANUFACTURE OF RAW FILMS

*283. SHRI M. VALIULLA (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the Minister for HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether East German team of experts that visited the various parts of the country has recommended the establishment of a raw film manufacturing plant at Ootacamund ; and

(b) what decision Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). The report is only of a preliminary nature and detailed examination of various factors will be necessary before decisions including that of location are taken. Discussions are taking place with the East German manufacturers in this connection.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the other places that are likely to be selected ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
We have to select only one place. The delegation visited Ranchi, Poona, Dehra Dun, Mandya, Kodaikanal, Coimbatore, Ootacamund, Bangalore and Mysore.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How many States have come forward to start this industry ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This is to be started by the Government of India in the public sector through the National Investment and Development Corporation.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Have any States come forward to participate in this?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
No. this is not intended for the States and the States have not come forward. This is for the Central Government to set up.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: If a State Government comes forward to set this up with its funds, why should it not be permitted to do so in collaboration with a foreign firm?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
As the hon. Member knows, even today financial assistance is given to the different State Governments by the Centre and there is hardly any possibility of such huge amounts being found with the State Governments at present.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Am I to understand that it is the policy of Government not to encourage the State Governments to put in their own money if they have got any resources and that any further expansion in the public sector should only be that of the Centre and not of the States?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:
No, that is not the point. For instance, if this German expert team or any