

is the position now. They have provided some details. Further, more are being asked for. Now, when the Second Five Year Plan is being finalised, no doubt, all these factors will be taken into consideration.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Now, Sir, there is a very important issue involved and I should like to have an answer to that, because even though the Plan may be financed by a State Government, the finances are a total consideration. If large schemes are financed by the State Governments for which *ad hoc* sanctions are given, it might affect the over-all financial position. So, I should like to ask this: if any State Government submits a plan and suggests that it is prepared to find the finances, is it the Government's policy that they will consider it *ad hoc* and give sanction without taking the whole picture into consideration?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not make a long speech.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Sir, I have already said that when the Second Five Year Plan of the State Government comes to be considered by the Planning Commission, then the entire resources for financing all the schemes would be taken into consideration; and then also we would decide about the amount of Central assistance available.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The Government of West Bengal have already called for tenders in connection with the scheme; that means that they are going ahead with the scheme.

#### REQUIREMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICITY METERS

\*99. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of the country in electricity meters in 1954-55;

(b) how much of this requirement was met from indigenous manufacture and how much from imports; and

(c) the annual manufacturing capacity of the indigenous factories in electricity meters?

THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) About 2,25,000 numbers.

(b) Indigenous production amounted to about two-thirds of this quantity.

(c) 2,53,000 meters a year.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, what steps Government is taking to increase the indigenous production; whether they are contemplating to start more factories for producing these?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: At present the capacity is quite enough, considering our demands in the near future.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is the hon. Minister aware that the price of the meter has gone up in the market from Rs. 35 per piece to Rs. 45 per piece and that the demands even of the State Governments are not being met?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is not that the price has gone up everywhere. In some places, it might have gone up and the State Government's requirements are also not met, as and when they want them; and, therefore, imports are necessary.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know, Sir, how the prices of the indigenous meters compare with the price of imported ones?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The indigenous prices and imported prices are almost the same.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know, Sir, where the factories which are manufacturing these electricity meters are located? The term, I may add, should be energy meters.

SHRI N. KANUNGO: There are five factories manufacturing these meters: one in Bangalore; one in Jaipur; one in Trivandrum; one in Calcutta; and one in Bombay.

**DASAPPA:** Is it not possible to expand the capacity of the factories in order to meet all our requirements?

**KANUNGO:** Expansion is possible, but the factories have reached their total capacity of production.

**SHRI H. C. MATHUR:** Is the hon. Minister aware that even to meet the requirements of the State Governments, the time required by these factories is 6 to 8 months?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** May be in the case of certain factories on account of their internal organisation.

**SHRI H. C. MATHUR:** May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is aware to what extent the price of these meters has gone up during the last six months?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** I require notice.

**हिमालय प्रदेश में अखबारी कागज की फ़ैक्टरी**

\*१००. श्री कृष्णकान्त व्यास : क्या वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमालय प्रदेश में अखबारी कागज की फ़ैक्टरी की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में उन अमरीकी विशेषज्ञों से कोई प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हुआ है, जो इस क्षेत्र का निरीक्षण करके इस फ़ैक्टरी की स्थापना का स्थान निश्चित करने वाले थे ?

†[NEWSPRINT FACTORY IN HIMALAYAN REGION

\*100. SHRI KRISHNAKANT VYAS: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far regarding the establishment of a newsprint factory in the Himalayan region; and

(b) whether any report has been received from the American experts who were to determine the site for the factory after surveying the region?]

**उद्योग मंत्री (श्री नित्यानन्द कानूनगो) :** (क) हिमालय प्रदेश में अखबारी कागज की फ़ैक्टरी स्थापित करने की कोई ठोस योजना नहीं है ।

(ख) सरकार को जितनी जानकारी प्राप्त है, उसके अनुसार कोई भी अमरीकी विशेषज्ञ यह निश्चित करने के लिए यहाँ नहीं आया कि हिमालय प्रदेश में अखबारी कागज की फ़ैक्टरी किस स्थान पर स्थापित की जाए ।

†[THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) There is no concrete scheme for establishment of a newsprint factory in the Himalayan region.

(b) As far as the information of Government goes, no American expert came over here to determine the site for a newsprint factory in the Himalayan region.]

**श्री कृष्णकान्त व्यास :** क्या किसी अन्य क्षेत्र में इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जांच की गई है ?

**श्री नित्यानन्द कानूनगो :** एक फ़ैक्टरी चल रही है, और किसी दूसरी फ़ैक्टरी के बारे में कोई ठोस प्रस्ताव नहीं आया है ।

**श्री कृष्णकान्त व्यास :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि अभी तक किन किन राज्यों में कागज निर्माण का काम हो रहा है ?

**श्री नित्यानन्द कानूनगो :** सवाल तो अखबारी कागज के बारे में है । अखबारी कागज बनाने की एक ही नैपा फ़ैक्टरी मध्य प्रदेश में है ।

**श्री कृष्णकान्त व्यास :** अखबारी कागज के उत्पादन के सम्बन्ध में हमारा देश की स्थिति कैसी है ?

**श्री नित्यानन्द कानूनगो :** अभी बिल्कुल नहीं बनता है, सारा इम्पोर्ट होता है ।