

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION

PORT ON PARADWIP ESTUARY

29. SHRI S. MAHANTY : (a) Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether the Committee of French Navigation Experts that investigated the possibilities of setting up a port on the east coast of India have recommended Paradwip on the estuary of the Mahanadi as the best site for the purpose ?

(b) Will Government lay a copy of the recommendations of the said Committee on the Table ?

(c) Is it a fact that notices have already been issued to acquire land in Paradwip for the construction of a port there ?

(d) When do Government propose to start the work ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) Two copies of the report of the French Mission have already been placed in the Library of Parliament. [See No. IV-M. 2 (26).] A copy of the recommendations relating to the setting up of a port is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 26.]

(c) Yes.

(d) This is for the Orissa Government to consider. The Central Government are only concerned with major ports.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO DIWAN CHAMAN LALL

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a letter from Diwan Chaman Lall :

"I have the honour to request you to obtain for me leave of absence from the Council of States for the remaining period of the Session as I have to go abroad immediately."

Is it the pleasure of the Council that permission be granted to Diwan Chaman Lall to remain absent for the remaining period of the Session ?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Permission to remain absent is granted.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1952-53

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants for expenditure of the Central Government (excluding Railways) for the year 1952-53. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. O. I (72e).]

RESOLUTION RE: EXPORT DUTY ON MERCURY—continued.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Parikh wanted to speak. Is he here today ? He is not here. There, he has come.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY (Mysore) : May I submit Sir, that our question hour is scheduled till the 15th only? I wonder if it can be extended till the end of the Session ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have questions till the 19th.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH (Bombay) : Sir, when the Resolution was moved, the hon. Minister said that this excess quantity can be exported out of the country because we have sufficient stocks which will last for four or five years and, he has also kept a reasonable limit of 10,000 flasks. The hon. Mr. Ranga has made a suggestion that this quantity should be kept in the country and we should have stock-piling. I think that it is not necessary to do so when we have three