

COUNCIL OF STATES

Monday, 15th December 1952

The Council met at a quarter to eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH (Madras) : Sir, may I raise an important matter ? Recently the Law Minister made a statement in this House regarding the havoc caused by the cyclone in Tamil Nad.

SHRI M. VALIULLA (Mysore) : On a point of order, Sir. That may be taken up after questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions. Shri Valiulla.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD

*208. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish a designing and estimating office in connection with the development of the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the drawings, designs, specifications and other descriptive materials necessary for the building of ships are prepared in India by a French company on condition of payment of a sum equal to 4 per cent. of the turnover of the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, what is the amount so far paid to the French firm and when the contract with the said firm is to be terminated ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN) : (a) A designing and estimating office already exists in the shipyard.

(b) The drawings, etc., referred to by the Member will be made by the design-

ing and estimating office attached to the shipyard, under the supervision of experts supplied by the French company. In consideration of this and other technical assistance, the French firm will be paid a sum equal to 4 per cent. of the turnover of the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

(c) So far no payment has been made to the French firm ; the contract is for five years from the 15th July 1952.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Is there any amount due to the company and not paid yet ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : The contract is in force from the 15th July 1952, and, as far as I know, so far only two experts have arrived. The first one arrived some time in July, and the second in the meanwhile.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Is any amount paid in advance for their maintenance and other expenses ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : Some of these things are included in the terms of the agreement with the company, and the main terms of the agreement have been laid on the Table of the House of the People.

Shri M. VALIULLA : May I know whether the designs, etc., so prepared belong to the French company or the Government of India ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : We have got a designing and estimating office in which we have got experienced people. But the whole idea is to reinforce that organisation, and certainly any design and estimate prepared by that organisation will be part of the property of the company.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : That means, we have to purchase those things in addition to paying the 4 per cent. which we have already contracted to do ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : What I mean by "the company" is the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Are we to pay for the designs also, in addition to the 4 per cent. that you have bargained to pay ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : I do not think so.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : What is the expected turnover per year on which the 4 per cent. is to be given.

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : The procedure whereby the turnover is to be arrived at is also laid down by the agreement itself. As far as I know, it is the intention of the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., to build about 25 to 30 ships in the course of the next five years, and in calculating the turnover, all the expenditure involved in the shipyard will be taken into consideration.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : May I know whether the present designing and estimating office is responsible for original designs, or merely for copies of standard designs ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : I could not answer that question. As far as I know, they may be taking some assistance from some other similar design made by other concerns. But certainly what has been produced by our designing office which is at present in existence is something for which all the credit must go to them.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : The hon. Minister stated that the French experts would try and reinforce our personnel in the designing office. May I know whether this reinforcement would mean training of our own personnel to see that they submit original designs for ships and not mere copies of designs of standard ships ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : Yes, Sir. It is a part of the agreement that the French experts should train our people in the shipyard itself, and also arrange for their training in France in their own works and also elsewhere in France.

PRODUCTION OF KYANITE

*209. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : (a) Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state what is the total quantity of kyanite produced in India annually since 1947-48 and up to October 1952 ?

(b) What is the total quantity of kyanite produced in Madras State during the same period ?

(c) How much kyanite has been used in India out of the total quantity so produced in the country ?

(d) What is the quantity of kyanite exported during the period referred to in part (a) and to which countries ?

(e) What is the value of our exports, and what is the customs earning on these exports ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a), (b), (d) and (e). Two statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexures Nos. 57 and 58.]

(c) About 4,000 tons annually.

I should add, under (a) and (b), that the total production of kyanite in India and Madras in 1951 was 42,301 and 445 tons respectively.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is the Government aware that kyanite is one of the materials on the stockpiling list of the United States ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I am not aware, but it is likely.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Then why does not the Government impose some export duty and earn some revenue from it ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : We have not considered it necessary.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Why does the Government not consider it necessary ?