

SHRI K. C. REDDY : I said that one of the firms was not at all interested and did not offer any terms. So we had to carry on our negotiations with the Associated Cement Company and the Government got the best possible terms from that company.

SHRI B. RATH : Am I to understand from the reply of the hon. Minister that the other firm did not give any terms to the Government ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : Yes. No terms were given.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : Is it not the policy of the Government not to encourage cartels but allow as many indigenous industries to develop as possible ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : Yes, it is the policy of the Government not to encourage cartels to develop in the country. And of course this is also an indigenous industry which is coming up.

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES

*65. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government contemplate an integrated project for iron and steel industries ;

(b) whether Government intend to seek foreign help in the matter ; if so, from which countries and on what terms ;

(c) what will be the total investment on this project, and what percentage of this will be Indian ; and

(d) whether Indian trade and industrial representatives will be consulted before the project is finally decided upon ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) to (c). Government have under consideration at present the question of

promoting the establishment of new capacity in the country for production of iron and steel in addition to the present capacity and proposed expansion thereof by the existing producers. The consideration of the question is still in its preliminary stages. It is, therefore, not possible to say at this stage what will be the nature or quantum of investments in the project.

(d) No, Sir.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will it be possible for the hon. Minister to give full information ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : As I said, the whole thing is in the consideration stage. What will happen is rather difficult to say and it is only when the negotiations reach a stage of finality, we may be able to tell the House what the position is.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : What is the difficulty in consulting the Indian trade and industrial representatives before the thing is finalised ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Because at the moment we do not see the need for consulting anybody. If there is anything necessary or any need, we shall certainly consult them. On the previous occasion there was a panel set up and they were consulted about setting up new units of production. At the moment I think there is no such need. If, however, we feel there is any need to consult the interests, surely Government will do so.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : In your answer just now you stated that you are not going to consult before finalising. My question arises because when you are negotiating with foreign concerns regarding more projects it will also be necessary to consult our own trade in that branch.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The point really is whether the consultation is a necessity or is a condition precedent to taking any action.

We don't feel called upon to consult anybody at this stage. If it is necessary, surely we will do so. At the present moment we don't propose to consult any of the existing interests in regard to this.

SHRI B. RATH : What are the parties with whom you are negotiating ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The whole thing is in a formative stage. The Government want to establish a factory—probably more than one factory, if it is possible, and several negotiations are going on. It may be that there may be one or two others also. I am not in a position now to say with whom we are discussing.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Is it a fact that the Tagasaki Mission that visited India from Japan selected Bonai in Orissa for the iron and steel factory ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I cannot catch the import. Is it something about the Japanese Industrial Mission ?

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Yes.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I don't think there is anything very definite said by them.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : After all when you have started negotiations even in the initial stages, certainly you can give us information as to with what particular countries or particular Trade Missions you are conducting the negotiations.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : We are hoping to negotiate with any country that offers to help us in this matter. It may be that we have discussed with some Japanese, it may be that we have discussed with people from U. S. A. and it is a fact that we have discussed with some people from Germany. We are quite prepared to discuss with Sweden or Belgium or anybody who is interested in steel products. We would like to discuss

and get assistance from anybody. If any assistance is available, we welcome it.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Since you have started negotiations already may I know what are those Trade Missions or interests and which country they belong to ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : My hon. friend would like to pin me down to an answer. I am afraid it is not possible. I said the whole thing is a matter of negotiation. At the present moment some of our officers who are in U. S. A. for a different purpose are looking about this and seeing if they could do anything which would assist the industrial expansion of this country. The only thing that we can say now definitely is that the Government's mind runs in this direction and they would like to establish a factory which they would control and beyond that I don't think I am in a position to say now.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE : Could the Minister not tell whether he is including Russia in the negotiations ?

(No reply.)

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY : Is there any proposal to start a factory in Orissa ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The question really is, there are two sites which have been fixed by a group of experts, rather three different groups of experts, who visited this country in 1948-49. There were several sites discussed and two were chosen, one in Orissa and the other in Madhya Pradesh. After all the factory that will be established will be either in the one or the other.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY : Has no final decision been reached as to whether it will be started in Madhya Pradesh or in Orissa ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Nothing final has been decided.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Was it originally stipulated and also given in the press by the Government of Orissa that the Iron and Steel Factory was going to be established in Bonai ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : May be, it is quite possible.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : I wanted a definite reply.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : How could I be responsible for anything the Orissa Government says ?

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Did not the State Government of Orissa intimate this matter to the Minister of Industry and Commerce ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The Government of Orissa is keen to have a factory. The Government of Madhya Pradesh is keen to have a factory. If we have the necessary money my colleague, the Minister for Production, would establish a factory in Orissa as well as in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI O. SOBHANI : Will Government consider the case of Bastar before determining the site of the factory ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The question of determining the site of this factory is not entirely in the hands of the Ministers of the Government. It is in the hands of the experts who have to decide the location. There is also the overall consideration of incidental cost. If we establish a factory in Bihar, well, the overall cost would be only about 7 crores. If we establish the factory in Orissa it will be 11 crores, if we establish it in Madhya Pradesh it will be 14 crores, if we establish it in Bastar it may be 25 crores. These are the considerations which have to be determined.

SINDRI FERTILISER FACTORY

*66. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sindri Fertiliser Factory was visited by a foreign expert on industrial relations ;

(b) if so, what is his name, nationality, qualifications and previous experience ;

(c) how far he was aware of the conditions of Indian industry and the life of Indian workers ;

(d) what advice the above specialist tendered to Government ; and

(e) whether Government will place a copy of his recommendations on the Table of the Council ?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : (a) No.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

KOREAN GERM WARFARE

*67. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Report of the International Commission which investigated into the charges of germ warfare in Korea has been brought to the notice of the Government of India ; and

(b) whether the Government of India have taken any steps on the basis of this Report ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) :

(a) Presumably the hon. Member is referring to the report by the Commission of International Association of Democratic Lawyers of which the Government are, of course, aware.

(b) No, Sir.

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SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : I don't mean the International Lawyers but the recent International Scientists Mission that went there and reported.