

COUNCIL OF STATES

Wednesday, 30th July 1952

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRODUCTION IN RARE EARTHS LTD., ALWAYE

*76. SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR : Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state :

(a) when the Rare Earths Ltd., Alwaye, is expected to go into production ;

(b) whether the factory under the said Company has sufficient capacity to absorb all the monazite produced in the Travancore-Cochin State ; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the negative, what provision has been made for the disposal of the surplus ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) :

(a) Already in production.

ib) Yes, Sir.

ic) Does not arise.

SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR : May I know what is the arrangement for getting supplies of monazite for the factory ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I believe, Sir, the arrangement is that the Travancore-Cochin Government makes the supply.

SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR : Does the Travancore Government supply directly to the factory or is it through the Government of India ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I cannot tell you exactly how it is, but on the records that I have with me it is said that the Travancore Government supplies monazite to the factory at a fixed price.

SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR : My question is, is it supplied directly to the company or through the Government of India ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Well, the physical transfer must necessarily be to the company, but whether the correspondence is through the Government of India or not, I am not quite sure. But I believe the Travancore Government being vitally interested in this company there could be really no difficulty in corresponding direct with the company.

SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR : It is a question of mutual obligation. That is what I want to know about.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The question of obligation does not arise. The Travancore Government have got 45 per cent, of the shares in this company, and whatever might be the relationship that Government might have with this company, it is the Travancore Government that is interested in it.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Before I put this question I wish to submit that this question has been mutilated beyond recognition and I request you to instruct the Office not to alter it materially and substantially.

HELP GIVEN TO AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY BY RESERVE BANK

*77. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

ia) whether the Reserve Bank of India is rendering assistance to the agricultural community ;

ib) whether Government have received any proposal from the agricultural community in this regard ; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH) : (a) The Reserve Bank does not render any direct assistance to the agriculturists