

SHRI PILOO MODY : We will join too together.

SHRI NAMBIAR : The car should be so made that he is able to travel in it.

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order.

SOVIET EXPERTS IN H.E.C., RANCHI

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32. **D. C. SHARMA :**

SHRI BENI SHANKER

SHARMA :

SHRI SHARDA NAND :

SHRI ONKAR SINGH :

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR

SALVE :

SHRI R. K. SINHA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi proposes to engage 42 Soviet experts to improve its techniques of production and installation;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal;

(c) the steps taken to implement the same and the expenditure involved; and

(d) whether such technical know-how and expertise, as is needed, is not available in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The services of these experts will be obtained from the U.S.S.R. during the period 1968-70 for a total period of 42 man-years on a phased basis.

(c) A contract for the deputation of these specialists is being finalised by the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi with the Russian collaborators. The expenditure involved is estimated at Rs. 21.61 lakhs.

(d) The decision was taken bearing in mind the technical know-how and expertise available in the country and the need for building up production and for training Indian operators on some of the specialised machinery and equipment.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : For some time we have been hearing that the H.E.C. at Ranchi is a very sick child. May I know what effort the Ministry has made to restore this sick child to health or to near-health ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : In order to increase production and to set right the lag in productivity, a Soviet experts team arrived in India at the invitation of the Government of India. They have suggested various recommendations and steps to be taken for the purpose of improving the productivity and also the total production. We are trying to implement some of these recommendations and I hope, it will do well.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : While I feel grateful to the Soviet Union for lending us the services of these experts who are specialists in this kind of technical knowledge and expertise, I want to ask the hon. Minister what efforts have been made during the last year to develop our own cadre of such persons as can run the H.E.C. at Ranchi without any outside technical knowledge and expertise.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : Every effort is being made to develop our own technical personnel and to make completely Indianised the entire operations of the said project. It is only for the purpose of getting some highly-skilled experts for giving training to the operators in order to meet the Bokaro orders immediately and also to train the operators on some specialised machines that both the parties have agreed for a total period of 42 man-years on a phased basis, not more than that.

श्री बेनी शंकर शर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक मेरी सूचना है हैवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, रांची के अन्दर तीन प्लांट्स बँटाये गये हैं, पहला हैवी मशीन बिल्डिंग प्रोजैक्ट, दूसरा फाऊंडरी फोर्ज प्रोजैक्ट और तीसरा हैवी मशीन टूल्स प्रोजैक्ट। इनमें से पहला हैवी मशीन बिल्डिंग प्रोजैक्ट रशियन तकनीकी सहायता से बनाया गया है जबकि दूसरे दोनों प्रोजैक्ट्स चेकोस्लोवाकियन सहायता से बनाये गये हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो रशियन ऐक्सपर्ट्स आ रहे हैं वे केवल

पहले प्रोजेक्ट के लिए ही आ रहे हैं, या तीनों प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए आ रहे हैं और अगर वे इन तीनों प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए आ रहे हैं तो मैं पूछना चाहूंगा कि जो प्लांट्स चैकोस्लोवाकिया की सहायता से बनाये गये हैं उनके लिए चैकोस्लोवाकियन ऐक्सपर्ट्स क्यों नहीं बुलाये जा रहे हैं। रशियन ऐक्सपर्ट्स ही क्यों बुलाये जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : The Russian experts are coming to train our workers and also to put some specialised machines in operation only in respect of heavy machine building project which is a Russian collaboration project.

SHRI R. K. SINHA : Sometime back there was labour trouble and also trouble incited by communalist parties in this area. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the productive capacity of the H.E.C. at Ranchi is working normally today and whether some foreign elements are involved in sabotaging the public sector project.

AN HON. MEMBER : Irrelevant.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : The plant is working normally. As far as the rest of the matter is concerned, I would request the hon. Member to put a separate Question.

SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM : May I know whether it is a fact that the majority of experts who come from foreign countries are only ordinary technicians and they are not better experts than Indians in the respective fields including Soviet, American as well as other Western countries, and whether it is also a fact that the Government do not go into the details of the experience-cum-efficiency of these experts before they are allowed to come and, if the experts are not found as good experts and do not prove their worth, do the Government of India have the provision in the existing contracts to send them back earlier than the scheduled time since we have to incur a lot of money on them ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : After a very high-powered Soviet technical team had gone into the entire question and after prolonged discussions with our own technical personnel, it was felt necessary to have

42 experts and not more than that. The number first suggested was considered to be higher but after prolonged discussion the number was reduced to 42. In order to train the workers in respect of certain machines which are very complicated machines and because the machines are manufactured in the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union is a collaborating country, it was considered necessary to have 42 persons. It is the endeavour of the Government to see that, as far as possible, complete Indianisation takes place in respect of all technology as well as of all projects.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR : Since this project is being pushed through with Soviet collaboration, may I know how many experts are at present working in the project and why these 42 additional experts were necessary ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : As early as August 1968, the Russian experts working in this Plant were about 107. In order to meet the demands of the Bokaro Plant according to the time schedule plus to train some of our workers on some complicated machines in order to increase the productivity of our personnel, these experts were considered to be necessary.

SHRI NAMBIAR : May I know whether it is a fact that orders given by many of the factories were not executed by Ranchi? Not only Bokaro, but Ranchi was also failing in many of the orders, and even government undertakings had to cancel the orders at a heavy loss to Ranchi. May I know whether that situation has been improved or changed or will it be done only after the experts come ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : Due to some labour troubles plus the productivity not being at a desirable level, some orders could not be immediately fulfilled, but every effort has been made and now the Plant is working at a proper level and it is expected that the Plant would be able to fulfil all the orders placed with it.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : The hon. Minister said that, in August 1968, there were 107 experts working and the another 42 have been added. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether by August 1968 the experts who were there were not able to train the engineers according to the agreement so that it was found necessary in August 1968 to have another 42 experts ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : This project is a developing project. A number of machines are to be installed and after every stage of completion the workers will have to be trained. At this level of completion, which is really 98 per cent, with respect to certain machines, it was considered that some technicians were necessary for training our workers.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : The production of this Plant has to be related to the industrial development of the country. In those circumstances has the Ministry considered whether with more experts, with small technical changes, we are going to get any further forward with the excessive capacity built in? My specific question is this. What is the present percentage of capacity used? Secondly, what is the value of the machinery accumulated in the factories which cannot be sold?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : At present, the Plant is not working to its full capacity. It is likely to reach about 80,000 tonnes.....

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : He wants to know the percentage.

SHRI PILOO MODY : What is the percentage?

MR. SPEAKER : What is the present capacity? He wants to know the percentage.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : Now it is working to a capacity of about 25 per cent.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Gross exaggeration!

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : When it reaches full capacity, it would produce about 80,000 tonnes. It is likely to reach that by 1970-71. We have got orders up to 1970-71....(Interruptions)

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : What about the accumulated stock of machinery?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : He says that the plant is now working to 25 per cent of the capacity. 107 experts were there in August.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : So many of you cannot put questions.

The second part of Shri Lobo Prabhu's question has not been answered. Is there any unsold stock?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : As far as that question is concerned, I do not have immediate figures, but I shall let the hon. Member know the position.

SHRI HIMATSINGKA : The machinery at Ranchi is one of the most sophisticated machinery in the country and is capable of producing anything that is required in the country. What steps are being taken to replace the Czechs who have left the country and also to take steps to see that the capacity is fully utilised?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : Seven experts from Czechoslovakia were working in the foundry forge project and three out of them have left. The authorities there have stated that it was necessary to obtain the services of three new experts in place of the three who have left. As far as the rest are concerned, the project authorities have stated that they are confident that they will be able to manage with the existing personnel.

SHRI HEM BARUA : Is it not a fact that the chairman of the Heavy Engineering Corporation at whose invitation the Russian experts have agreed to come proposes to fight a bye-election to Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha on Congress ticket, and if so, is it not because of this political involvement on the part of the chairman that the factory is not working upto its capacity?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : It is not possible for me to say whether he wants to go to Rajya Sabha or not.

SHRI HEM BARUA : The fact that the chairman wants to fight an election shows his political involvement, although we were told on the floor of the House that the chairman did not have any political involvement.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has understood the question but he has said that it is not for him to answer that question.

SHRI NAMBIAR : The Congress is also the raw material for production at Ranchi. It is part of the raw material.

श्री रवि राय : अभी श्री शर्मा और श्री पाणिग्रही के प्रश्नों का जवाब देते हुए मंत्री महोदय ने एक चीज स्पष्ट नहीं की। अब वह कह रहे हैं कि हम भारतीयकरण कर रहे हैं,

लेकिन कम्प्लिकेटेड मशीनरी के कोई 42 विशेषज्ञों को उन्होंने बुलाया है। अब तक सिर्फ 25 परसेंट प्रोडक्शन हो रहा है, 75 परसेंट नहीं हो रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आगे चलकर वह और विदेशी विशेषज्ञ मंगाने रहेंगे या इस सदन को यह आश्वासन देना चाहेंगे कि अगले चार या पांच सालों में वह सारे के सारे भारतीय विशेषज्ञों को ट्रेनिंग देंगे ताकि कोई विदेशी विशेषज्ञ उनको न बुलाने पड़े ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : It is the endeavour of Government to see that not only 25 per cent but the entire production capacity is reached.

श्री रवि राय : अभी 75 परसेंट नहीं हुआ ।

श्री प्रमचन्द्र वर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि 1967-68 में इस कारखाने को कितने आर्डर प्राप्त हुए थे और उनमें से कितने सप्लाइ किये गये हैं ? जो छः महीने चल रहे हैं उनमें ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को चेन्ज किया गया है और बड़े बड़े अधिकारियों को बदला गया है। क्या इससे कुछ हालात सुधरे हैं या वह वैसे ही चल रहे हैं ?

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : As far as the first part of the question is concerned, I may respectfully submit that the hon. Member may permit me to supply the information to him later, because I do not have the figures with me immediately.

As far as the second part of the question is concerned, the management has considerably improved, and the tone of the administration has improved, and now the project is working to its normal level, and I hope that this would continue.

श्री रवि राय : आखिर कुछ तो हद होनी चाहिये, अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय कह रहे हैं कि नार्मल लेवेल पर काम हो रहा है। यह नार्मल लेवेल कैसे हो गया ?

MR. SPEAKER : They have now reached 25 per cent and that is the normal level; that is what he has said.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि रांची कारपोरेशन के अध्यक्ष श्री मालवीय ने मुसलमान कर्मचारियों के लिये वहां पर एक नई कालोनी अलग बनाई है, और इसके लिये उन्होंने 380 कर्मचारियों को नोटिस दिये हैं तथा 20 का दफा 107 के अन्दर पुलिस से कह कर चालान करवाया है ? अगर यह ठीक है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार की यह नीति है कि मुसलमान कर्मचारियों के लिये अलग कालोनी बनाई जाये ? दूसरी बात यह है कि पहले जब यह सवाल हुआ था तब श्री मोगरजी देसाई ने कहा था कि पोलिटिकल लीडर्स को किसी कारपोरेशन का हेड बनाया जाय या नहीं हम इस पर विचार कर रहे हैं। क्या सरकार इन सब बातों को देखते हुए श्री मालवीय को वहां से हटायेगी क्योंकि वह पालिटिक्स में इंटरज कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : No personal questions should be put.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : I may very respectfully submit that the main question deals with the Soviet experts. I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Is it a fact that the cost of production in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi is very high and as a consequence thereof, the concern is accepting orders and executing them at a loss? Every order that is executed by the concern means some loss to it.

SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI : I am afraid I shall not be able to agree with the hon. Member.

SHRI UMANATH :

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MESSRS. BENNETT COLEMAN AND COMPANY

*33. **SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI :**

SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4642 on the 20th August, 1968 and state :