

As the hon. Member already knows, actually speaking, the general complaint is that our teas are selling at a little higher price than the Ceylon and other teas. That is why the competition of Ceylon is actually severe. Regarding production facilities, it is a huge list of various types of facilities we are extending to this industry, namely, fertilisers, replantation up to Rs. 5 crores and 2 crores for hire purchase machinery. The hon. Member fully knows all that.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Rameshwar Tantia.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know...

Mr. Speaker: He took so much time even in putting the first question.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: From the statement it is seen that South Indian tea is sold at 3sh 6d and Ceylon tea at 4sh 10d. May I know, when the climatic condition in the range are the same, what is the reason for this big difference between South Indian tea and Ceylon tea?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Actually it is not so. In Ceylon, it is the average of both areas in Ceylon which are very adjacent to the Tamil border and also high-land areas which are just like our Assam tea. In regard to tea, the average of the Ceylon tea is taken. If you take the North Indian tea, it will not be higher than the Ceylonese tea. In the South Indian tea on the other side, it is slightly higher.

Shri P. C. Borooah: In view of the fact that increase in the wages of workers adds to the cost of production, may I know whether the Government propose to subsidise the tea industry to compensate the increase in the cost likely to be recommended by the Tea wage board?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The question, if I may say so, does not arise out of this. It will not be right always to speak in terms of subsidy. All the necessary assistance to this industry is being given. There is no case for any

other assistance in the nature of subsidy.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know what are the other steps taken by the Indian Government to see that our tea competes with others in the foreign markets and production of our tea becomes less costly?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The steps are, larger supplies of fertilisers, modernisation of tea plantation by the supply of hire purchase machinery. As I said last time in the House also, we are now giving them assistance for artificial irrigation equipment which is a very new advance made in tea fertilisation. All these steps are taken as far as lowering the cost of production is concerned. Regarding assistance abroad, we are spending quite a big amount on tea propaganda abroad. There is also another question on this subject today, and in my reply to that I have stated that we are trying to open some centres for publicity. A delegation headed by the Chairman of the Tea Board has recently visited Australia, and the chairman has come back only yesterday. These are the various steps that we are taking to promote the sale of Indian tea abroad.

Cement factories

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*220. {	Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
	Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
	Shri Bhakt Darshan:
	Shri A. K. Gopalan:
	Shri P. K. Ghosh:
	Shri Sonavane:
{	Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) how many new cement factories are proposed to be established during the Third Plan period;

(b) the details of proposals received or being considered by Government; and

(c) the criteria governing the establishment of new cement factories?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. S. Sethi): (a) Twenty-eight schemes, with a total capacity of about 4.9 million tonnes, have been approved. Their completion in time will depend on the availability of foreign exchange, the capacity of indigenous manufacturers for plant and machinery etc.

(b) There are fifty proposals before Government.

(c) Availability of raw materials, fuel, power, water, rail transport facilities, demand and supply in the area and the target for the Plan period are relevant criteria; other things being equal, the need for regional dispersal of the industry is also kept in view.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Before these proposed factories are established, may I know how Government propose to meet the present requirements of the country?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): We can meet it only with the present production, and we are trying to expedite production, particularly using slag from blast furnaces.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: What is the gap at present between the demand and the supply curve, and is it a fact that while the demand is rising, the production is not coping up with it?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is true that the production is not coping up with the demand. That is mainly because the target in the Second Plan was reduced, but, now, we are trying to make it up.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: Out of these 22 factories how many are in the public sector and how many in the private sector? May we have a State-wise break-up of these?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Mostly, they are in the private sector. I have got the figures here with regard to the

State-wise break-up but it will take a long time to read them out.

Mr. Speaker: That may be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know how many of these factories are intended to be established as ancillaries to steel industries?

Shri C. Subramaniam: As regards ancillaries to steel industries as I have already stated, it is connected with the utilisation of slag. Just now, we are making efforts to utilise the slag available at Durgapur and Bhilai, and two or three cement factories will be linked with these.

Dr. K. L. Rao: May I know whether there is spare capacity in the existing factories remaining unutilised because of certain difficulties and if so, the steps that Government are taking to rectify them?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Roughly, the producing capacity is round about 90 per cent. We are trying to push up the production in these factories also by making available to them more raw materials and also transport capacity.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether these 22 factories include one in Jammu Province at Kalakot and another at Chakki near Pathankot?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Yes. It includes Messrs. J. & K. Minerals, Ltd., Srinagar.

Shri Bade: Is there any proposal before Government to establish any factory in Madhya Pradesh in the private sector, and what help will Government give to the private sector for the factory to be established at Neemuch?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is going into the details of the regions.

Shri Bade: I am not going into the regions. I want to know what help Government will give if the private sector wants to start factories for manufacture of cement.

Shri C. Subramaniam: There is one factory licensed in the private sector in Madhya Pradesh, called Messrs. Associated Cement Co.

Shri Bade: My question is different, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri Yashpal Singh.

Shri Bade: My question was quite different.....

Mr. Speaker: I was inclined to disallow even the earlier question of the hon. Member because he was going into the details of one particular region.

Shri Bade: I seek your protection, Sir....

Mr. Speaker: Rather, I seek his protection. Now, Shri Yashpal Singh.

Shri Bade: I wanted to know what help Government would give to the private sector if it wants to start a cement factory.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have called Shri Yashpal Singh.

श्री यशपाल सिंह: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो भारत का सबसे बड़ा कारखाना हेवी एलेक्ट्रिकल्स का हरिद्वार में कायम हुआ है, क्या उस की जरूरियात को मीट करने के लिये वहाँ सोमेन्ट फैक्ट्री कायम की जायेगी।

Mr. Speaker: That is a proposal; that is a suggestion for action.

श्री लहरी सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ब्याम डैम का खयाल रखते हुए, क्या उस एरिया में कोई फैक्ट्री खोलने की तजवीज है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर यह सब चीजें एक एक सेक्टर की हम लेने लगेंगे तो कैसे काम चलेगा ?

Shri Hem Raj: May I know the party to whom licence has been issued for the setting up of the factory in Punjab, and whether it is a fact that

it has been given to a firm which had been blacklisted by Government?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is entering into too many details. Now, next question.

Steel Plant at Bokaro

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*221. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Morarka:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Lakhmu Bhawani:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Daji:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the progress that has been made regarding establishment of the Fourth Steel Plant at Bokaro; and

(b) whether U.S. Government have finally decided to give the promised aid?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). The U.S. Steel Techno-Economic Survey team sent by the U.S. Agency for International Development are expected to submit their report to the U.S. Agency early in 1963. The actual decision on financial aid for the Project will be taken after the Techno-Economic Survey team have submitted their report. In the meanwhile preliminary work is going on at the site and action is being taken to acquire the necessary land

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Have Government taken adequate steps to see that the establishment of this plant does not suffer because of foreign exchange difficulties due to this emergency?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Once the scheme is approved, I am sure sufficient aid will be coming from the US which will take care of foreign exchange also.