

when this ship was ready for launching. Therefore, advantage was taken of his presence to mark this occasion because this vessel happens to be the first bulk carrier and it also happens to be the biggest ship that our merchant marine will now come to possess. This ship is going to be delivered by the end of December.

So far as the Minister of Shipping was concerned, he happened to be there in connection with exploring possibilities for collaboration for the second shipyard. The Ambassador was invited for the occasion and naturally he came....

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### Paradip Port

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\*277. { Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have decided to undertake the development of Paradip Port in Orissa;

(b) if so, what would be the estimated expenditure on this Project;

(c) whether any foreign assistance has been sought for this;

(d) if so, from which quarters; and

(e) the details thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

The development of Paradip Port as an Intermediate Port is already included in the Third Five Year Plan and the Government of India have made a provision of Rs. 1.5 crores for the grant of loans to the State

Government to cover the expenditure in this regard. The State Government have proposed that Paradip Port should be developed as a deep-sea port for the export of iron ore on a large scale from the Orissa mines. This scheme is under examination by the Planning Commission. The State Government's proposals envisage the export to begin with, of about 2 million tons of iron ore from the Tomka-Daitari mines through Paradip. The cost of developing Paradip Port to handle this traffic is estimated at Rs. 16 crores. A team representing Japanese interests is at present in India to conduct negotiations in regard to the various aspects of the project including the purchase of iron ore exported through Paradip. The negotiations are at present in progress.

**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:** How much money has been spent on this port in the Third Plan period?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Under the Third Plan, as has been mentioned in the statement, Rs. 1.5 crores have been earmarked for being spent. As to how much has already been spent, I require notice.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** संकटकालीन परिस्थिति को देखते हुए इस वर्क को एक्सपेंडिट करने के लिये क्या किया जा रहा है, और यह कब तक खत्म हो जायेगा ?

**श्री राज बहादुर :** इससे तो हम प्राइडर एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहते हैं । संकटकालीन स्थिति से इसका कहां तक सम्बन्ध होगा, यह कहना मुश्किल है ।

**Shri Maheswar Naik:** May I know whether the foreign experts from Japan have already completed their survey of this area regarding finalisation of port construction?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** My information is that the team of Japanese experts has come here with a view to exploring possibilities of exporting iron ore from the Tomka-Daitari mines through Paradip. At present,

they are busy with negotiations in this connection.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbiah:** May I know whether there is any proposal to have financial assistance from Japan for development of this port since the iron ore that is to be sent to Japan is to be exported mainly from this port?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am not aware of the details and also on the lines on which negotiations are proceeding.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Has Government formulated a clear policy including priorities, with regard to various ports on the east and west coasts? If so, does Paradip enjoy a higher priority than some others?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** So far as this port is concerned, as I have already submitted, Rs. 1.54 crores have been allotted for its development under the Third Plan with a view to make it good enough to handle as much as 5 million tons of traffic. By the time it comes to that level, we shall try to see....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** I am sorry. My question related to priority in the matter of construction of the port.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** He referred to the principles and so, I have explained the principle, that when we come up to a certain level of traffic we take further steps. If this plan for exporting 2 million tons of ore is finalised, then we shall proceed further.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** I referred to priority in the matter of construction. The answer is quite different from the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Unless the Minister tells the hon. Member what priority if any, has been given to this port, he will not be satisfied.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I think the House is already aware that so far as the Third Plan is concerned, for

new ports we have given priority for development in the case of Mangalore and Tuticorin. This Paradip Port development comes as a separate proposal.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** That is what I wanted.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** It is mentioned in the statement that the cost of development of Paradip port to handle this traffic is estimated at Rs. 16 crores. May I know whether this amount will be required in Indian currency or in foreign exchange?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** This is all under investigation. The Planning Commission has to examine and scrutinise these figures. I think a large part of this will be required in Indian currency; only a small portion, if at all, would be required in foreign exchange.

#### Survey of Dandakaranya

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\*278. { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to send a team of experts to Dandakaranya to survey its potentialities for farming, forestry and horticulture; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be sent?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) Yes.

(b) The composition of the team is under consideration and as soon as it is decided, the time for its visit will also be finalised.

#### Export of Raw Sugar

\*279. **Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Agency Division of the Indian Sugar Mills Association has entered into a contract