

### Zinc Smelter at Alwaye

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\*531. Shri P. Kunhan:  
Shri Imbichibava:

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licence has been given to a Calcutta firm to set up a zinc smelter at Alwaye in Kerala with Canadian help;

(b) if so, the name of the firm which has been given the licence;

(c) the production capacity and employment potential; and

(d) the nature and extent of Canadian assistance offered in this connection?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (d). A licence has been granted to M/s. Cominco Binani Zinc Ltd., to set up a zinc smelter at Alwaye (Kerala) with a capacity of 12,000 metric tons of zinc per annum to be expanded subsequently to 20,000 metric tons per annum and proportionate quantities of bye-products viz. sulphuric acid and cadmium.

The project is likely to give employment to about 300 persons.

The Export Credits Insurance Corporation of Canada will make available to the Indian company a loan of Rs. 70 lakhs for import of plant and machinery. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada will provide know-how, technical assistance, engineering services, designing and the training of personnel of the Indian company at a cost of about Rs. 39.5 lakhs. They will also participate in the capital of the Indian company to the extent of Rs. 84 lakhs.

**Shri P. Kunhan:** May I know when the factory is expected to go into production and what is the foreign exchange involved?

**Shri Kanungo:** The total cost of plant and equipment will be Rs. 104 lakhs out of which the foreign ex-

change component will be Rs. 39.5 lakhs. The plant is likely to go into production in a couple of years.

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : यह फैक्टरी मिनरल ग्रोस से कितनी दूर होगी और क्या दूसरी जगह से मिनरल ग्रोस लाना होगा ?

श्री कानूनगो : हमारे यहाँ जितना हमें चाहिए, उतना मिनरल ग्रोस नहीं होता है। उसे हमें इम्पोर्ट करना होता है।

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** When the plant is in full production, may I know what would be the percentage of our demand which will be covered by this factory?

**Shri Kanungo:** Very small.

### Titanium Factory at Trivandrum

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\*532. { Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Titanium factory in Trivandrum owned by the Kerala Government is being handed over to the Tatas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Centre has approved this step; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) The Government of Kerala do not own the Travancore Titanium Products Ltd., Trivandrum; they have only majority shareholding in the concern. The State Government have not decided to hand over the concern to Tatas.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** May I know whether the Government of Kerala or the management of this particular firm has approached the Central Government for help in expanding this firm?

**Shri Kanungo:** The licence for expansion has been granted since quite