

**Shri P. B. Patel:** The hon. Minister has stated that the cost of textiles would depend on the cost of cotton and other things. What is the increase in price in the case of cotton during the last ten years as compared with other costs?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** The increase in the case of cotton is Rs. 320 per candy which is higher than that of many other manufactured articles.

**Shri P. B. Patel:** I was asking the percentage.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The question is why cloth is very expensive. The reason is that cotton has become costly.

श्री मुकम चन्द कछुवाय: क्या यह बात सही है कि हथकरघा के लोगों को जो सूत दिया जाता है वह महंगा दिया जाता है लेकिन उनका जो कपड़ा लिया जाता है वह काफी सस्ता लिया जाता है और उन को ठीक-ठीक मजदूरी नहीं मिलती है तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में भी कोई जांच की गई है और इस समिति के सदस्य कौन कौन से हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : यह जो कमेटी बनाई गई थी माननीय सदस्य देख सकते हैं कि वह उस के लिए नहीं बनाई गई थी । उन का काम तो यह था कि हिन्दुस्तान का बना हुआ माल इतना महंगा क्यों है और उस में क्या-क्या रास्ते निकालने चाहिए जिससे माल सस्ता बने ।

#### Supply Department Delegation to USA

\*539. **Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation consisting of officers of the Supply Department recently went to the United States of America;

(b) if so, the composition thereof and the purpose for which they were deputed; and

(c) the total expenditure involved including foreign exchange and the

foreign exchange released in the case of each member of the delegation?

**The Minister of Supply in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Raghuramaiah):** (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

But I might add that about a year back the then Minister of Supplies, my colleague Shri Hathi and a Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Supplies did go to Washington, London and Tokyo for an on-the-spot inspection.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** What are the benefits derived by Shri Hathi's delegation to the United States?

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** He has made some very valuable suggestions which are under examination. Some of them have been implemented. Some of them are to expedite the procedures and some to effect economies.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** May I know whether he had gone to Washington in connection with streamlining the administration of the Indian Supply Mission?

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** It was generally to look into the functioning of our Missions abroad.

#### Hindustan Steel Ltd. and N.C.D.C.

\*540. **Shri Mohammad Elias:** Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) the objects for locating the head office of the Hindustan Steel Ltd., and National Coal Development Corporation at Ranchi in Bihar; and

(b) to what extent such objects have been realised?

**The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) For effective supervision of the collieries, it was necessary that the Headquarters of the Coal Production and Development Commissioner (whose work has since been taken over by N.C.D.C.) should be located at some central place from which access to the collieries would be easy. For these considerations, Ranchi in Bihar was selected for the purpose.

The main object in locating the Head office of Hindustan Steel Ltd.

at Ranchi was to ensure close liaison with the N.C.D.C. and the Heavy Engineering complex at Ranchi.

(b) These objects have been realised in the case of N.C.D.C. and are being realised in an increasing measure in so far as Hindustan Steel Ltd. is concerned.

**Shri Mohammad Elias:** What is the total expenditure incurred by Government to shift these two offices from Calcutta to Ranchi?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** I require notice.

**Shri Mohammad Elias:** What is the present expenditure for maintaining these two offices in Ranchi and what was the expenditure incurred while they were at Calcutta?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** I do not have the precise figures about expenditure. About 637 people are working in the HSL and 2,042 people in the NCDC Headquarters.

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not a fact that when these two offices were located at Calcutta there were objections raised by different sections of the House against their location in an over-crowded city like Calcutta and suggesting that, if possible, that they should be shifted to Ranchi or any other place nearer to the various steel projects and the coal mines?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** Not only that, but the Estimates Committee also said:—

“They feel that its location nearabout the area of operation would enable Hindustan Steel to function independently on business lines instead of looking to Government for advice and guidance on all matters.”

The Estimates Committee also said that.

**Shri K. N. Tiwary:** Most of the heavy industries are running in Bihar and their headquarters are at Calcutta. So, are our Government prepared to reconsider it and have the offices in Bihar specially when the Bihar Government is prepared to give them all facilities?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** At least, concerning this question, that is, NCDC and Hindustan Steel. About other industries I cannot say.

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** May I know whether the expenditure for keeping the offices at Calcutta will be more than at Ranchi or whether it will be less at Ranchi than at Calcutta?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** It is a hypothetical question. It all depends on various circumstances.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Since it is already found that the cost of the office will be less apart from the suitable location being in the centre of the belt, why is it that there is so much reluctance and delay on the part of Government once they have taken a decision to shift the office to Ranchi and why a major portion is still at Calcutta and is it not shifted to Ranchi as planned and decided by the Government?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** My hon. friend is perhaps thinking of some other industry or something else. These two have already come to Ranchi.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if Hindustan Steel Limited and National Coal Development Corporation at Ranchi maintain any auxiliary offices at other places also; if so, what is the advantage of maintaining those auxiliary offices at other places?

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** There are the Steel Controller and the Coal Controller, but they are not auxiliary; they have to do independent work also.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** I want to know whether all the employees of these two offices at Calcutta have been absorbed at Ranchi and whether they have been provided with proper living accommodation and other facilities.

**Shri Sanjiva Reddy:** I think, most of them have moved to Ranchi and they are all settled there.