

develop regional languages, do Government propose to revise this policy of giving more quota to the English papers and see that that is diverted to the language papers?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Actually, it is not so. It is not as if only English papers are given additional quota. There is a committee sitting for small newspapers under the chairmanship of Shri Diwakar. They are making recommendations on this very point.

Shrimati Maimoona Sultan: In view of the fact that our newspapers have to buy 30 per cent of their requirements from NEPA Mills and the price they have to pay for that is 50 per cent higher than the imported newsprint, and taking into consideration the fact that this is proving a burden on the small newspapers, what steps are Government taking to see that the price of NEPA newsprint comes down?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It is no doubt true that NEPA newsprint about costs 40 per cent more than the ruling world price. But we have to keep in view the interest of the indigenous industry also. We are hoping that in course of time the price will come down.

Shri Shinkre: One of the reasons for the shortage of newsprint is the fact that most of the so-called big national newspapers use more than 70 per cent of space for advertising—to that extent they are advertising bulletins—and only 30 per cent for giving news and views. May I know from the Minister whether Government contemplate any steps to impose a ceiling on these newspapers for advertising space each newspaper can devote, with a specific provision that if they exceed that ceiling, no newsprint will be allotted to it?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It is no doubt true that, by and large, 60 per cent of the space is used for advertisement and 40 per cent for news and views, but not in all papers. We are

keeping that aspect in mind. The Registrar of Newspapers looks into that matter also.

Manufacture of Tanks at Avadi

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 { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri M. R. Krishna:
 *427. { Shri Himatsingka:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Murli Manohar:
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date progress made regarding the manufacture of Tanks in Avadi (Madras); and

(b) whether this project is likely to go into production during the current year?

The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) About 80% of the plant and equipment has been received at site and installed.

(b) Yes, Sir. The first tank is expected to be produced before the end of 1965.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What will be the capacity of this project and what will be its employment potential?

Shri A. M. Thomas: When in full production, the capacity would be 100 tanks annually. As regards employment potential, on a single-shift basis when in full production, 3,000 persons would be employed.

Mr. Speaker: Hundred tanks during what period?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Annual production.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Apart from this factory at Avadi, may I know whether some of the parts of tanks will be manufactured in other ordnance factories and assembled at Avadi, or will everything be manufactured at Avadi?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have established the production of guns in one of the ordnance factories, and that will produce according to schedule as the tanks are available. With regard to the other things, the engines and self-changing gears will be manufactured at Avadi itself, but with regard to the electronic equipment, it will be manufactured in BEL, Bangalore.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार यह बतला सकती है कि बाहर से मंगायें हुए टैंक्स की कीमत कम होगी या जो हमारे यहां तैयार हो रहे हैं उन की कीमत कम होगी ।

Shri A. M. Thomas: It cannot be said like that. Even with regard to the production, at the first stage many of the components would have to be imported. Our idea is to produce from tank No. 41. Forty tanks will be imported from the collaborators, Messrs. Vickers Armstrong, and from No. 41 we would be producing at Avadi. In the first stage, from No. 41 28 per cent would be manufactured in India, and the rest would be imported. Gradually, the indigenous component would be increased.

Shri M. R. Krishna: The Jigs and buildings etc. were completed in 1963. Why was there this delay in manufacturing tanks when the buildings, training and other things were completed in 1963?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The project is proceeding according to schedule. Even according to the original schedule, the first tank should have been produced only by the end of this year, 1965. We still think that it would be possible. Perhaps, the date may be advanced a bit.

Shri Himatsingka: When is the balance 20 per cent of the equipment expected to arrive?

Shri A. M. Thomas: They are in the course of being received.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether the special type of armour

plate required for tanks can be manufactured in this country, or whether we will be depending entirely on foreign supplies?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We are trying to install indigenous capacity for the manufacture of this special type of armour plates, but we have not been able to do so. We think we will be able, but perhaps in the first stage we may have to import some armour plates.

श्री प्र० सि० सहगल : हमें जितने टैंक्स की जरूरत है क्या जो प्रावडी की प्रोजेक्ट है उस से उस की पूर्ति हो जायगी । यदि नहीं हो सकेगी तो इस के लिए सरकार कौन सी व्यवस्था करने जा रही है ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have got both an import programme and a programme for indigenous manufacture. As I have already indicated, the first 40 tanks would be imported from the collaborators. We have made some arrangements for import of some light tanks from the Soviet Union after the visit of the defence team there. So, we are keeping our requirements in view.

Dr. Melkote: Is it a fact that some of the ordnance factories may be shifted from Madras to other places, and if so, may I know if the workers in these factories who desire to opt for the tank factory would be taken?

Shri A. M. Thomas: No ordnance factory is being shifted from Madras to any other area. In Avadi there is a clothing factory. It is not proposed to shift that factory at all. In certain ordnance factories we may have to dispense with casual labour, and we attempt to accommodate them in other factories.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: What is the expected production of tanks during 1966?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We cannot now definitely say. I have said that

from tank No. 41 it would be produced here.

Shri Kapur Singh: Is any evidence available with the Government to substantiate the impression that the Chinese are manufacturing tanks fitted with nuclear artillery, and if so, are the tanks which we are going to construct, capable of meeting such a situation?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have no information that the tanks manufactured there are fitted with nuclear artillery.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Always ill-informed.

Manufacture of Jets with U.A.R. Collaboration

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Shri Surendra Pal Singh:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri D. N. Tiwary:

Shri R. S. Pandey:

Maharajkumar Vijaya

Ananda:

Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Shri Daji:

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Shri P. K. Deo:

Shri Narasimha Reddy:

Shri B. Barua:

Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo:

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Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some teams of experts from the United Arab Republic visited this country in December, 1964 with a view to examining the feasibility of linking India's H.F. 24 project with supersonic aircraft engine now being developed in their own country; and

(b) if so, the result of the talks held between the U.A.R. Teams and the Government of India in this regard?

The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir. A team consisting of engineer officers from UAR were in India for a fortnight during December-January last to study the characteristics and performance of H.F.-24 aircraft.

(b) The studies have not yet been completed. Discussions with UAR authorities will be taken up after the technical studies have been completed.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Once the terms of collaboration had been finalised between India and the UAR, may I know if these engines would be manufactured in India or in UAR?

Shri A. M. Thomas: All these things have still to be finalised. Technical studies are going on.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Apart from this proposal of collaboration with the UAR, have any efforts been made to procure engines from some other country or countries?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Only after the disposal of this proposal with the UAR we can consider other things. Now, the UAR proposal is under consideration.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Has the Government worked out the total financial investment that is likely to be involved in the joint venture?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is still to be worked out.

श्री डा० ना० लिबारी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो टीम विजिट कर के गई है उस ने स्थान का चुनाव भी कर लिया है जहाँ पर यह फैक्ट्री लगेगी या केवल टेकनिकल कोऑपरेशन की बात उस से हुई है।

Shri A. M. Thomas: There is no question of selection of any site. We are already having the HF 24 project in Bangalore.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know when this survey is going to be