

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: My question should be answered, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: They were suggestions. Next question.

Aluminium Plant at Korba

+

- *335. Shri Himatsingka:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
 Shri Bagri:
 Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri K. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
 Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
 Dr. Chandrabhan Singh:
 Shri Parashar:
 Shri Hukam Chand
 Kachhvalya:
 Shri Chandak:
 Shri J. P. Jyotishi:
 Shri Daji:
 Shri M. Rampure:
 Shri Wadiwa:
 Shri R. S. Tiwary:
 Shri Bade:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
 Shri Shiva Dutt Upadhyaya:
 Shri U. M. Trivedi:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to set up a bigger alumina plant at Korba in Madhya Pradesh with a capacity of 200,000 tons per annum in place of earlier proposal to set up a plant of the 120,000 tons capacity;

(b) if so, when the plant is likely to be set up;

(c) whether Government of Hungary have agreed to draw up a new detailed project report replacing the earlier one which contemplated a smaller plant;

(d) the kind of assistance Russia and Hungary are likely to give in setting up this plant; and

(e) the total cost involved in this plant?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Detailed Project Report for the alumina plant is expected to be submitted by M/s. CHEMOKOMPLEX of Hungary towards the end of 1966. After consideration of the project report construction of the plant would be taken up.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Technical and financial assistance will be given by Hungary for the alumina plant and by the USSR for the smelter.

(e) This will be known after the project reports are received.

Shri Himatsingka: In view of the fact that aluminium is more and more being used in substitution of copper, will the Government take steps to expedite this plant?

Shri P. C. Sethi: We are taking all possible steps to expedite the establishment of this plant and other plants also.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस कारखाने में जो एलुमिनियम पैदा होगा, उस में से हम अपने देश में कितना इस्तेमाल करेंगे और कितना बाहर भेजा जायेगा और क्या हंगरी या रूस के साथ निर्यात के बारे में भी कोई करार हुआ है ?

श्री प्र० सेठी : नहीं, हंगरी या रूस के साथ निर्यात के बारे में कोई करार नहीं हुआ है। एलुमिनियम की मांग हमारे देश में ही बढ़ रही है और काफी उत्पादन होने के पश्चात् भी हम उसको पूरा नहीं कर सकेंगे।

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: What are the special reasons for choosing Hungary

and Soviet Union for this kind of collaboration, and may I know whether this collaboration would be confined only to technical aspects of the project and when this would be completed?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): We will have to collaborate with one country or the other. For the Koyna project, the Germans are collaborating. We are prepared to take the assistance from any country. About two years ago, the negotiations started with Hungary; it was thought first of all that 1,20,000 tons of alumina would be produced with their assistance; but later on, when I went to Russia, it was thought that a plant with 1,20,000 tons would be a small unit and to be economic, they said it must be 2 lakh tons of alumina, so that we can produce one lakh tons of aluminium.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I wanted to know by which time this will be known, namely, what the capital outlay would be, what the total would be?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I can give the rough figure. There is a slight difference of opinion. It will be round about Rs. 38 crores. After the project report is received, then only we will know the complete details.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बता सकती है कि इस समय एलुमिनियम की कुल कितनी खपत है, हम कितना पैदा कर रहे हैं और हम कब तक हम बॉरे में सैल्फ-मैकिंग हो जायेंगे ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: It is not only the public sector but in the private sector also we are producing aluminium. I think by the end of the third Plan we will need about two lakh odd tons of aluminium. We are producing aluminium in the place of copper wherever possible, because copper and zinc are in short supply. Researches are going on in our labo-

ratories. If we succeed, larger quantity of aluminium can be produced, because we have bauxite, the raw material, while it is difficult with regard to copper and zinc.

श्री विश्वनाथ पांडेय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कोरवा में जो एलुमिना संयंत्र स्थापित किया जायेगा, उस पर कुल कितना धन लगेगा ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : जैसा कि अभी बताया गया है, अभी उसका पूरा एस्टीमेट नहीं है। पुराना घन्दाबा 38 करोड़ रुपये के करीब है। चूंकि अब वह प्लांट बड़ा हो गया है, इस लिए प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट आने पर पता लग सकेगा।

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether the recent visit of Shri T. T. Krishnamachari to Soviet Russia has finalised the terms of settlement as far as this project is concerned?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: No, Sir. Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, as you know, has been speaking in general terms of trade, financial assistance and all that. About this particular thing, there is nothing to talk over. Everything has been almost settled.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: What are the reasons for the delay in getting this report and by what time is the Government expecting it?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: First, a smaller project was contemplated. Later on, we changed the size, and therefore, the report will take at least a year from now, to be received from them.

Shri Hem Barua: The minister referred to the Finance Minister's visit to Soviet Russia. In that connection, when yesterday we requested the Finance Minister to make a statement on his visit to Soviet Russia and the possible economic co-operation, etc., he did not make a statement. But he made a statement to the

press. How can this be possible? They refuse to make a statement in the House.

Mr. Speaker: He may kindly put the supplementary. The other thing I will see.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will you allow us to raise it after the Question Hour?

Shri Hem Barua: Because the minister referred to that visit. That is why I wanted to know....

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: Some hon. member asked whether Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari had spoken about this. I replied to that. I did not know what he spoke; I have no information about the discussion.

Shri Hem Barua: Are we to understand that immediately after the Question Hour, you will allow us to raise it?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot give any undertaking now.

श्री बड़े : कोरवा के इस एलुमिना प्रोजेक्ट पर 1961 से विचार हो रहा है। पहले वहां पर 120,000 टन की कैपेसिटी रखने का विचार था और बाद में उसकी कैपेसिटी को 200,000 टन तक बढ़ाने का विचार किया गया। रक्षा की तरफ से कहा गया कि वहां पर 400,000 टन की कैपेसिटी होनी चाहिए, अन्यथा वह प्रोजेक्ट अर्थिकानोमिक होगा। मेरा सवाल यह है कि कोरवा का यह प्रोजेक्ट एलुमिना का होगा, तो फिर एलुमिनियम की क्या स्थिति होगी। अगर एलुमिना प्रोजेक्ट की कैपेसिटी 200,000 टन होगी, तो क्या एलुमिनियम का प्रोजेक्ट भी 200,000 टन का होगा ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: This is simple. If alumina is 2 lakh tons, aluminium will be 1 lakh tons. Converting alumina into aluminium will be taken over by Russia?

Shri Bade: After producing alumina, will it be taken up by Russia?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: Yes. Hungary will help us to produce alumina. In the next stage, Russia is going to help us to produce aluminium. The Russians suggested that 1.20 lakh tons of alumina will be too small a unit and they suggested that we go in for 2 lakh tons. Hungary has accepted to increase the production of alumina.

Export of Meat, Cheese, Fruit and Vegetables

+

*336. **Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Bagri:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of our Ambassador in West Germany at the opening of the Cologne International Food Fair on the 26th September, 1965 that while India was deficit in rice and wheat, there is an abundance of meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables which could be exported to other countries; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Enquiries made from the Indian Embassy in Bonn reveal that no such statement was made by the Indian Ambassador in West Germany on the opening day of the Anuga Fair. However, during his talk with the press on a subsequent occasion the Ambassador stated that though India was short of cereals like wheat and rice, we were trying to export not cereals, but other items like canned fish products, fruit juices, vegetables and meat products besides our traditional items like tea, coffee, cashew nuts etc. The Government agrees to the statement made by the Ambassador. All efforts are being made to export processed foods, sea food, spices and chatnies, fresh fruits and vegetables etc. The same are available for export after meeting the internal demand in the country.