

Heavy Engineering Corporation Ranchi

*486. **Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of productivity reached by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi;

(b) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi is being asked to utilise its enormous engineering capacity by taking orders from public and private sector undertakings for fabricating any machinery they might need; and

(c) if so, the extent up to which the Corporation will be able to save and earn foreign exchange?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ranchi are in charge of three projects, viz. (i) Heavy Machine Building Plant (ii) Foundry Forge Plant and (iii) Heavy Machine Tools Plant. Partial production in the Heavy Machine Building Plant has commenced on the basis of equipments already installed. Erection of all equipment is expected to be completed by the end of 1966-67. Production in certain sections of the Foundry Forge Plant has also commenced. Additional capacity will be realised progressively over the next two to three years with the completion of the project. Heavy Machine Tool Plant is still under construction.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is difficult to state at present the likely savings or earnings of foreign exchange. Most of the items of equipment to be manufactured at Ranchi are such as would result in saving of foreign exchange as similar products are being imported at present.

Newsprint Production in Sunderbans

*487. **Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the opin-

ion of experts expressed at a symposium arranged by West Bengal Government in December, 1965 on the newsprint production potential of the Sunderban forests;

(b) whether they have stated that Sunderbans can yield 30 million tons of raw materials for newsprint production; and

(c) whether it is proposed to explore the possibility of such production?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) Yes, Sir. The Forest Department of the Government of West Bengal had arranged the Symposium.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

Dearness Allowance to Railway Employees

*489. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway-men's Federation has urged upon the Government for the revision of the Dearness Allowance of the Railway employees as recommended by the Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Aluminium Plant in Mysore

*490. **Shri Linga Reddy:** Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a licence has been issued for an aluminium plant in the private sector in Belgaum District, Mysore State;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in setting up the aluminium plant; and

(c) when it is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) to (c). A "letter of intent" was issued on 24th July 1961 to the Indian Aluminium Co., Ltd., Calcutta, for establishment of a new 30,000 tonnes per annum aluminium smelter in Mysore State. The Company's proposals for foreign exchange financing for the project on the basis of loans from the Export-Import Bank of U.S.A. and the Export Credits and Insurance Corporation of Canada, and additional capital participation by the Company's Canadian associates, viz. Aluminium Ltd., Montreal Canada, have also been approved. These are expected to be finalised by the Company on the resumption of U.S. economic aid to India.

In the meanwhile, the Company have selected site for the plants near Belgaum town (in Mysore State) and completed extensive prospecting of the bauxite deposits in the South Kolhapur area in Maharashtra State. A contract for supply of electric power for the project from Sharavathy (Mysore) Hydel project is expected to be concluded with the State Electricity Board shortly.

The project is expected to be completed during 1968-69.

Eviction of Migrants

***491. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the refugee shopkeepers who built shops on North-East Frontier Railway's vacant land near Gauhati Railway Station have been served with eviction notice; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Railway area near Gauhati Station is heavily congested. Due to enormous increase in traffic at Gauhati Railway Station, remodelling of the station, provision of a more spacious circulating area and approach roads have become essential. Since the encroachments come in the way of these works, action to remove them has been initiated.

Indian Books for Afro-Asian Countries

***492. Shri Gopal Datt Mengi:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand for Indian text-books and technological publications in Afro-Asian countries;

(b) whether the Indian publishers have been encouraged to take advantage of this demand and if so, the assistance offered to the prospective exporters of books; and

(c) the results obtained in this respect so far?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The exporters of books are given various facilities for developing their export trade, as enumerated below:—

- (1) There is a special export promotion scheme designed to encourage the export of printed books.
- (2) Duty drawback is available on brand basis.
- (3) The Chemicals & Allied products Export Promotion Council gives necessary assistance relating to all the export promotional work by way of furnishing marketing