

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Not the Central Government themselves. But the Central Water and Power Commission is doing something and we think that some solution may be arrived at. I may inform the House that I will also take some personal interest in the matter and see how it can be done.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Minister wants to give that information he may lay the information on the Table of the House.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether any scheme has been prepared for the rehabilitation of the peasants who would be affected when the project work begins and if not, will they consider preparing a scheme?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: It is always a part and parcel of every scheme that if some persons are displaced from a particular area, some suitable arrangement is made and some compensation is also paid to them.

Shri Kappen: May I know if there is any difficulty in starting the work and then settling the dispute?

Mr. Speaker: That would create more disputes?

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: In view of the fact that there is a view that the Kerala State is being discriminated in the matter of developmental schemes, will the Government see to it that the necessary foreign exchange is made available to the state to start the work?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: There is no question of any discrimination at all. The question is to be viewed on merits. If there is any dispute which arises then it will have to be solved.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: I request that 391 may also be taken up and answered together with No. 385.

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I have no objection but Shri D. C. Sharma is not here.

Mr. Speaker: That cannot be answered then. If the sponsor of a question is not there, then it need not be answered.

Second Shipyard at Cochin

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*385. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made to-date in the construction programme of the second shipyard at Cochin;

(b) the amount spent on the project during 1960-61 and 1961-62;

(c) the progress made in acquisition of land for the shipyard; and

(d) the amount of compensation paid?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Negotiations for obtaining foreign technical/financial collaboration for the Project are in progress.

(b) 1960-61: Rs. 19,97,999.85 nP.
1961-62: Rs. 47,03,767.73 nP.

(c) Out of the 64 acres of private lands proposed to be acquired for the Second Shipyard, about 63 acres have been acquired by the 31st March, 1962.

(d) Rs. 66,86,513.73 nP.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: For the last two or three years the answers given were that negotiations were going on. May I know whether the hon. Minister can say the approximate time when there will be finalisation of these negotiations?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think we are taking steps as expeditiously as possi-

ble and it would not be wholly correct to say that for the last two or three years we have been saying the same thing. We have constantly made progress. We have acquired about 63 of the 64 acres of private land to be acquired. About 36 acres of Government land have also been acquired and they are also being taken over. The roads that have to be re-aligned in this section are there; estimates have been received for them and they are being given proper scrutiny and examination.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I refer to the negotiations for technical collaboration. What has been the progress in the last two years?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is not an easy matter. Even in HSL we are not able to build ships at a price which can be compared economically with other ship building yards. Naturally, it is our desire that the second shipyard when it starts should start on a sound basis and that the ships built in that yard should be able to compete favourably with foreign shipyards in the matter of pricing, construction and other relevant matters. Therefore, we want to have the arrangement for technical collaboration to be sound and reasonable.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the Government have arrived at any decision or conclusion regarding the negotiations that are being carried on so long with quite a number of foreign countries?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That should take time because we have got to weigh the pros and cons of every proposal that comes before us and that is why we have appointed a committee, in fact, to go into the various offers that have been made to us. Recently also, we have received another offer from Germany which also is receiving our attention.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know (a) in what proportion, besides iron and steel, is timber used in building these ships, (b) whether such timber

is available in this country, and (c) whether the 'Deodar' timber has been tried for building the ships?

Mr. Speaker: All these questions cannot be clubbed together.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Otherwise, we do not get another opportunity of asking another supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: If there are other difficulties, they might be surmounted by some other means, but this rule cannot be changed, namely, that several questions should not be combined and put together.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: All these three points are inter-connected and hope the hon. Minister will reply to them.

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as steel is concerned, we hope that shortly enough our steel plants will be able to produce the required amount or type of steel. As regards timber, we used to import and we still import it from abroad; we have to. But recently we are trying to see whether some other indigenous types are suitable for our purpose.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether it is a fact that recently the work had been slowed down and some of the officers who had been deputed there had been called back and, if so, what are the reasons?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I would like to repudiate that suggestion. I think I can assure the House that no work has been slowed down. Whatever work had to be done is being done.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In answer to part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister said that out of 64 acres of land, 63 acres have been acquired. May I know whether this will be sufficient for the project and may I know whether the difficulties found at Visakhapatnam due to want of space have been taken into consideration in this matter?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as land for the shipyard is concerned, we require 100 acres. Out of that 64 are to be acquired from private parties and the remainder is going to be given to us free of cost by the State Government subject to the condition that the cost thereof shall be made good to them. So for the shipyard is concerned that should be sufficient. Apart from that for the housing colony for the staff, 200 acres have been indicated to us, and we are considering whether that particular site suit us for this purpose.

Polish offer to assist India's coastal trade

*386. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state.

(a) whether Poland has offered to assist India's coastal trade by providing ships and technical know-how of shipbuilding; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to the offer?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No specific offer has been received by the Government in regard to coastal shipping.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: It is reported in the press on the 27th March that the Polish Ambassador in this country declared that Poland was willing to offer ships for our coastal trade as well as the technical know-how for shipping. So, even if no concrete scheme is received, may I know whether the Government have taken up this offer and is exploring the ways and means of bringing the question into some sort of fruition?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As recently as January, 1962 a letter was in fact received from the Commercial Attache of the Polish Embassy that Messrs Centrouor of Warsaw were willing to deliver one cargo liner of 10,000 DWT and that offer was communicated to the public and private one company had shown some interest

one company had some interest therein, but we think it did not materialise ultimately.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: In view of the shortage of coastal ships, even the scheme for shipping the coal from Calcutta has practically been frustrated. That is why I want to know whether the Government is interested in pursuing this and trying to see whether we can get some vessels for coastal trade.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The shipping companies in the public or the private sector have got to . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know if Poland has made such proposals and whether the Government would welcome or make a similar proposal.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): We welcome any offer of any assistance for increasing our tonnage of shipping, but the offer from Poland, after enquiry, is that even in the matter of technical knowhow they can consider the question of assisting us after a period of two years, and that is not of any use to over equipment.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that some other maritime countries of Europe including, I believe, Denmark, have offered their assistance and co-operation in this matter and, if so, is that also under consideration?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This has nothing to do with the original question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The original question refers not only to coastal trade, but to ship-building also. My supplementary was on ship-building.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: You can give a ruling, Sir. The original question refers to ship-building also.

Mr. Speaker: I find that the original question is restricted to Poland. Whether Poland has offered to assist