

Pradip Port

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 *940. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri Sanganna:
 Shri Subodh Haada:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a multi-million rupee project is being planned jointly by India and Japan to develop the Pradip Port in Orissa; and

(b) whether there is any plan or scheme to widen the existing waterways connecting Pradip Port in Orissa to Rourkela mines?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Government of Orissa have been approached by some Japanese interests with proposals for the development of Pradip port. These proposals are under consideration of the Orissa Government. Recently a reference from the Orissa Government has been received by the Government of India also and this is under examination.

(b) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : स मे सेंट्रल गवर्नमेन्ट का क्या हाथ हागा ? क्या उस को और से उडीसा सरकार को सहायता दी जायगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर माइनर पोर्ट के अंतर्गत जो कुछ सहायता साधारणतया दी जाती है, वह दी जायगी और उस के अतिरिक्त जो सहायता सम्भव हो, वह भी दी जायगी ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Minister said that recently they received a communication from the Government of Orissa in this regard. May I know what will be the probable cost of constructing that port and developing the waterway from Rourkela to Pradip, as suggested by the Government of Orissa?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There are two types of proposals in respect of this port. One is its development as a minor port, and the other, as a major port. An Officer on Special Duty was appointed to investigate. He reported that it could be developed into an intermediate port at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs, with a handling capacity of 5 lakh tons of ore per annum. About the major proposals, we cannot say anything at present.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: About the canal?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are collecting information from the State Government

Shri Thirumala Rao: What is the particular interest that Japan has got in the development of this port?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is in regard to the export of iron ore to that country.

Shri Supakar: What is the existing waterway connecting Pradip in Orissa with Rourkela?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As I said in reply to part (b) of the question, that information is being collected from the State Government.

Tilaiya Canal System of D.V.C.

*941. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some-time back tenders were asked and tender-deposits accepted for constructing the Tilaiya Canal System of the Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that those deposits have now been refunded;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether an elaborate official machinery was at that time set up for canal construction;

(e) if so, whether that machinery is still existing; and