

utilised either for growing vegetables or for town-planning.

Raw Film Factory

*829. **Shri Nanjappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether any report has been received from the Madras Government regarding the selection of a site near Ootacamund, Nilgiri District, Madras State, for the location of a raw film factory; and

(b) if so, the action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Nanjappa. May I know who are the sponsors of this company and why there is delay?

Shri Satish Chandra: There are no partners. The factory is proposed to be set up in the public sector, but the negotiations have not been finalised.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the Government is negotiating with the East German Government regarding the establishment of a raw film factory in Ootacamund?

Shri Satish Chandra: That is so, but there is also another offer. All these are under consideration at present.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the Government have decided about the location of this raw film factory?

Shri Satish Chandra: A delegation which came from one of the concerns visited several sites and it came to certain tentative conclusions.

Mr. Speaker. The Government have not yet decided. All that the hon. Member wanted was whether the Government have decided upon the location of this factory.

Shri Satish Chandra: Not yet finalised.

Nuclear Energy

*831. **Shri M. K. Ghosh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether an overall medical examination has been carried out on the persons working with nuclear energy in view of the report published by the World Health Organisation; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). An overall medical examination of the personnel coming in contact with the radioactive substances is periodically conducted by the Medical & Health Division of the Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay, because of the hazards involved in the work on the development of atomic energy. This Division also keeps a constant watch on the health of the workers concerned and takes such remedial measures as are necessary.

The Health Physics Division of the Trombay Establishment is responsible for protecting the personnel of the Establishment from the harmful effects of radiation and accordingly, it provides a film badge service and laboratory monitoring service for all persons handling radioactive materials.

I might explain what that film badge service is. Perhaps hon. Members may not understand that. A kind of film is worn on the coat and the wrists which registers any kind of radioactive effects. So, this film badge is taken out and examined once a week to see what has been the effect and

if it is at all approaching or tends to go above the normal, then the person is removed and examined thoroughly.

There are other examinations too. A routine blood count is taken. Then the finger-tips are taken to see if there are any changes in the finger-tips of the persons who have come into contact. These impressions are examined and interpreted and remedial measures are taken.

Shri M. K. Ghosh: Has the Government any intention of examining the plants around, as it might be that the radiations act on them readily and more strongly?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Surely the persons actually dealing with the substances inside the laboratory are examined. Regarding the other persons, well, if it once goes to the vegetable plants outside, it goes to the human beings outside too. There is the remotest possibility of that; not only the vegetable plants but human beings are being examined too.

Shri Narasimhan: Would we be assured that in the early cases of attack, remedial measures are effective?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I suggest to the hon. Member to refer back to the answer I have given?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether during the course of the routine examinations, any ill-effects have been found on the employees of the Rare Earth Factory and, if so, what remedial measures are taken?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To my knowledge no such effects have been found, but I cannot be positive. Things have to be reported to me. They would have been reported. But, as I have indicated, every possible precaution is taken to judge of these effects. Even the slightest trace even if those far below danger mark leave any trace on the film badge or in the

finger-tip or in the blood count or in the overall examination of each worker, they are examined. After the periodical examination, even if the slightest effect is shown, then they are removed and treated.

Indo-Ceylon Tobacco Pact

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*335. { **Shri Radha Raman:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Heda:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any delegation from Ceylon has visited India;

(b) if so, the subjects on which the delegation conferred with Government;

(c) whether the question of renewal of Indo-Ceylon Tobacco Pact was considered; and

(d) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The delegation discussed mainly the question of the renewal of the Indo-Ceylon Tobacco Agreement. It also discussed the possibility of releasing for export to Ceylon small quantities of pulses etc.

(d) The new agreement has not yet been finalised. A quota of 5,000 tons of pulses has, however, been released for export to Ceylon.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether, in view of the market for Indian manufactured goods in Ceylon, any other article or commodity which is manufactured in India was considered for export from this country to that country?

Shri Satish Chandra: There were talks about other things also, such as the export of handloom cloth, etc. to Ceylon from India, for which there is