

Indian technologists who had made a voluntary study of this subject; and

(c) what are Government's decisions on these reports?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Negotiations for securing satisfactory collaboration from abroad are continuing.

Shri Morarka: May I know the total cost incurred by Government for these various reports received from West Germany, U.K. and USSR?

Shri Satish Chandra: The reports from West Germany and U. K. have been received without any cost. Some payment has been made to the Italian firm only which submitted the report.

Shri Morarka: May I know how the report from the Indian technologists compares with the reports received from foreign experts?

Shri Satish Chandra: The report from the Indian technologists only tries to establish that there is no necessity for a Central plant for intermediates. What they have said implies that organic chemicals can be manufactured by chemical manufacturers and certain intermediates which are necessary for the dyestuff industry can be manufactured by the present dyestuff producers by extension of their factories. They have not taken into account the requirements of drugs, plastics and several other industries for which intermediates are required.

Shri Morarka: Does the Government propose to put up this factory in the public sector or does it want to give this to the private sector?

Shri Satish Chandra: The present intention is to set it up in the public sector.

Shri Morarka: Has any estimate been made of the total cost for setting up this factory?

Shri Satish Chandra: These matters are under discussion and negotiation. Some rough estimates have been received from these firms, I have just referred to. The matter is being examined and reliable estimates would be available when detailed project reports are drawn up.

Shri Morarka: What is the rough estimate?

Shri Satish Chandra: It might be about Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores, including working capital, factory, colony etc. In the first stage it might be about Rs. 15 crores.

Foreign Exchange Commitments

*253. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission have examined the foreign exchange commitments for the next six months in consultation with the various Ministries of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at, if any?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). Yes. Ceilings upto which the Central Ministries may enter fresh foreign exchange commitments for Government imports during October 1957 to March 1958 have been determined.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether while examining the foreign exchange components under the new phased Plan the Government tried to avoid the stopping of work or waste or unemployment as a result of the drastic rephasing of the Plan and what are the recommendations advanced to the Cabinet Committee with regard to the import licensing policy both on government and on private account?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): I could not catch the question.

Mr. Speaker: Is it one question or two questions? Hon. Members must

prepare the questions in advance. The questions must be short, only on a single point and ought not to be argumentative.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: While examining the foreign exchange component, would the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether all the Ministries have been consulted or whether any Ministry has been exempted, for example, the Defence Ministry; and, if so, what is the reason?

Shri L. N. Mishra: No Ministry has been exempted; all the Ministries have been consulted.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I enquire whether as a result of the rephasing of this programme any Ministry has suffered most and which Ministry has benefited by accidental inclusion of some item?

Shri S. N. Mishra: In regard to the previous question, I would like to submit that 11 Ministries have been consulted and the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Community Development and the like have not been consulted for reasons which are well-known to hon. Members.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether the Planning Commission has suggested rationing of foreign exchange in view of the scarcity of foreign exchange?

Mr. Speaker: What is the rationale?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The rationale in examining foreign exchange components.....

Shri Achar: What is the total amount as a result of consultation with the Ministries?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is not customary to give publicity to this kind of information because all these figures are subject to variation and it is not possible for me to give them, in any definite form.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: May I know whether there has been any drastic cut in the demand for foreign exchange of the various Ministries?

Shri L. N. Mishra: There has been some adjustment; but, I cannot say that there has been any drastic cut.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether the conclusions have been forwarded to the Finance Minister—because he was abroad—for his consultation with the Chief Ministers of the various States with regard to the rephrasing of the present programme?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The Finance Ministry is always in the picture while we are discussing these things. So, the question of sending reports to the Finance Ministry does not arise so much.

Disarmament between India and Pakistan

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*254. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan Foreign Minister, in a letter to an American newspaper, has suggested disarmament between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether any such proposal was made to India by Pakistan?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Government have seen the letter from the Pakistan Foreign Minister published in the New York Times of 29th September, 1957 in which he posed a question about disarmament between India and Pakistan.

(b) No, Sir.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know how this proposal is different from the offer of 'No War Declaration' by the Prime Minister of Pakistan?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There is no proposal on the part of Pakistan. What happened, I believe, was that Shri C. R. wrote a