

National Construction Corporation

*292. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money invested in the National Construction Corporation;

(b) which of the States had agreed to join the National Construction Corporation; and

(c) the nature of its work and its relation with existing private agencies engaged in construction work?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 14.]

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the paid-up share capital of the National Construction Corporation will be increased to a certain amount or is it fixed?

Shri S. K. Patil: The capital is Rs. 2 crores and as the statement gives the information, we have collected up to Rs. 41 lakhs. But, surely there has been an attempt continuously to increase that capital and bring it as near to Rs. 2 crores as possible.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the Corporation while undertaking projects will submit tenders as other private contractors are submitting? I mean while undertaking the work of projects whether the Corporation will be prepared to submit tenders as other private contractors.

Shri S. K. Patil: In this respect it differs from other contractors. Only when contractors are not available or the tenders are not acceptable that this comes into operation.

Development of Shipping Industry

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*293. { **Shri Heda:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Tangamani:

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

(a) whether a delegation of the Indian Steamship Owners' Association waited on him on the 22nd September, 1957;

(b) if so, what were the points raised by them and decisions taken by Government; and

(c) whether there will be any change in the policy of inviting foreign collaboration for development of the shipping industry?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir, on the 23rd September, 1957.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 15.]

Shri Heda: May I know how many cases have so far been examined in the light of the Government of India, Commerce Department's Resolution of 1947 and whether in any of these cases foreign capital collaboration has been allowed?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as I know, subject to correction, only one such proposal has now come to us. I do not know whether before this other proposals did ever come to us.

Shri Heda: May I know whether there were any particular reasons to single out this industry for giving exemption or not allowing foreign capital collaboration when the general trend is of inviting foreign investment?

Shri Raj Bahadur: From the terms of the old Commerce Department's resolution it is obvious that it has not been the policy of Government to prevent the participation of foreign capital in this industry entirely. We