

and Air Headquarters The Chairman of the Committee will the Deputy Minister of Defence, Shri Raghuramaiah

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I just ask what is the position of the third category in the armed forces, like ASC, EME, ordnances etc?

Shri Krishna Menon: This will apply to all enrolled non-combatants and combatants in the defence services This will apply to all those Government employees in the Defence Ministry who are not covered by the Pay Commission

Shri S M. Banerjee: Since the reply is "Yes" and the Committee has been appointed only after the submission of the Pay Commission's report, should I take it that the Pay Commission's report has been culculated to the Defence Ministry and considered?

Shri Krishna Menon: No, Sir While it is true that this Committee has been appointed only now, for the last six months or so there has been a study group considering these matters I am not in a position to say whether the Defence Ministry has fully considered the report of the Pay Commission That will be a matter for this Committee

Shri S M Banerjee: I want to know whether the present Committee will only consider the wages or the working conditions also of the armed forces people?

Shri Krishna Menon: The terms of reference of this Committee will be to consider the application of the Jagannatha Das Commission's recommendations to combatants and enrolled non-combatants of the defence services In making their recommendations the Committee will be required to take into account the historical background of the present pay structure and other conditions of service of combatants and enrolled non-combatants of the defence services, the peculiarities of defence in the armed forces and the consequences thereof and other relevant factors

In phase I of its work, the Committee will frame its recommendations in the manner in which such of the recommendations of the Pay Commission which have obvious and immediate impact on combatants and enrolled non-combatants of the defence services should be applied to such personnel In phase II the Committee will apply itself to those recommendations of the Pay Commission which have an impact on the defence services, but the adaptation of which would require some further examination because of the peculiar features of the service of defence service personnel

If, in addition to that, any other new problems should arise, Government will consider referring those problems to this Committee

Shri D C Sharma: Has any time limit been set for the submission of the report by this Committee, and may I know whether their recommendations, whatever they be, will have retrospective effect?

Shri Krishna Menon: No time limit has been set up but the general idea is that the recommendations should be capable of being implemented simultaneously almost at the same time as the application of the recommendations of the Pay Commission

Alloy and Tool Steel Plant

*82 {
 Shri R C. Majhi:
 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
 Shri Subodh Hansda:
 Shri S M. Banerjee:
 Shri Tangamani:
 Shri Panigrahi:
 Shri D C Sharma.
 Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
 Shri Morarka:
 Shri Pangarkar:
 Shri Subbiah Ambalam:
 Shri Nagi Reddy:
 Shrimati Parvathi
 Krishnan:
 Shri Warior:
 Shri Khimji:
 Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the

reply given to Starred Question No. 306 on the 13th August, 1959 and state.

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the possibility of entrusting the work of preparation of the detailed project report for the proposed Alloy and Tool Steel Plant to an Indian firm,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) when the report is expected to be received from the firm, and

(d) the amount to be paid to the firm for preparation of the project report?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An Indian (Private) Limited firm of Consulting Engineers has been selected for the preparation of the detailed project report as well as the subsequent detailed designing of the plant

(c) By June 1960

(d) The firm is to be paid a total of Rs. 59,60,000 for the preparation of the detailed project report as well as for subsequent services as Consulting Engineers

Shri R. C. Majhi: What is the proposed annual installed capacity of this plant?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Initially 40,000 tons in ingots, with arrangements that it should be capable of expansion up to 80,000—maybe even in the initial stages.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know where this project will be located?

Sardar Swaran Singh: A decision will be taken after the receipt of the detailed project report.

Shri Tangamani: How long will it take for this plant to be erected after the project report is received in June 1960, any approximate idea?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It might take anywhere from 2½ to 3 years—30 to 36 months.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether this Indian consultant was a member of the committee constituted to examine this project report and this very member is now appointed as a consultant?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not know what the hon. Member means by a committee for examining the project report. The information that I have given is that a detailed project report is to be prepared. So, there could not be a committee to examine the project report when the project report itself is not there.

Shri Basappa: I just wanted to know whether one or two foreign consultants were required to furnish a project report for the very scheme, and their report was considered by a committee and whether this present Indian consultant was a member thereof.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think I should give the information because the question as framed perhaps is not quite happy.

The fact is that we were negotiating the Government of India was negotiating, with certain foreign firms about the preparation of detailed project reports and service as consulting engineers and one of the proprietors of the present firm was an expert whom Government had co-opted for carrying on these negotiations, but in the course of the negotiations it was discovered that an Indian firm could be encouraged, and we took a decision ultimately to entrust it to this Indian firm.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is this Indian firm of consulting engineers entrusted with the job of recommending a proper site for this special alloy steel plant?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No. The firm will recommend one out of three or four possible sites.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have suggested a higher capacity, and if so, the reaction of the Ministry thereto?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have already said that in the initial stages it will be 40,000 tons a year, in terms of ingots, with provision to rapidly expand it to 80,000 tons a year. So far as the future requirements are concerned, they are still being examined, and it is quite likely that the ultimate capacity may have to be even higher. Whether it will be at the same plant or at a different place is a separate issue.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Government have received requests from the State Governments to instal this plant in their States, and if so, from which States?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, there is no specific request, except the natural desire that the project may be located in this or that State, no request as such has come, except that the Mysore Government have been writing for some time that this could be located at Bhadravati. All these matters will be carefully gone into, after the detailed project report is prepared.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Our experience in the past about our steel mills has been that whenever the actual capacity has not been fixed upon correctly, we have had difficulties. So, I would like to know whether this project report is going to be worked out on the basis of the capacity indicated by the hon. Minister, or whether before the actual work on the project report begins, a final capacity beyond 80,000 tons will also be considered.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am afraid I have not been able to follow the hon. Member. The information that I have given is that on those capacities the project report will be prepared.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: So, we are to take it that this project report is going to be based only on 40,000 to 80,000 tons a year.

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, I have not said so. I said that this project report would be on this basis, and we would also see that there is provision

for expansion, and the lay-out and the general services are organised in such a way that it is capable of expansion even further.

Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide

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*83. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Snbodh Hansda:
 Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that an improved method for manufacture of electrolytic manganese dioxide has been evolved at National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur,

(b) whether any attempt has been made to see whether manufacture on a commercial basis by this method is practicable, and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir

(c) The National Research Development Corporation of India is taking necessary steps for its commercial development.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this material is imported at present and if so, how the price of the imported stuff would compare with that to be produced here?

Shri Humayun Kabir: According to figures available with me, 17 cwt were imported in 1957, and 24 cwt in 1958. The average price of the imported manganese dioxide, excluding natural manganese dioxide ranges from Rs 3,500 to Rs 4,500 per ton. We expect that the estimated cost by our process will be something like Rs 650 per ton.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether all the raw materials are available indigenously?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I would ask for notice.