

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow every hon. Member to put supplementaries on every question. Next question.

Dandakaranya Scheme

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Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Shri Supakar:

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

*867. { **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**

Shri Mohan Swarup:

Shri Hem Barua:

Shri Tangamani:

Shri Bimal Ghose:

Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that land reclamation work in Dandakaranya has received a set back on account of the delay in the delivery of the requisite machinery by the Defence Ministry;

(b) whether some more displaced persons have been brought recently to Dandakaranya; and

(c) the total number of displaced persons or families brought from West Bengal month by month from 1st January, 1960 to 30th November, 1960?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a), (b) and (c). The attention of the Hon'ble Members is invited to the Progress Report on the Dandakaranya Project circulated to the Members of the Lok Sabha on the 28th November, 1960.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether it is a fact that orders for 75 tractors were to be placed on 26th February, 1960 with the Defence Ministry and why the orders were placed only on the 26th April, 1960?

Shri P. S. Naskar: It was decided to place the order sometime in April and it was done so.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that orders for 45 tractors have been placed on a U.S. firm for Caterpillar tractors and if so, what are the reasons why that particular order was not placed on the Defence Ministry?

Shri P. S. Naskar: It is a fact that additional orders for 45 tractors including the Caterpillar have been placed with an American firm in addition to the order for 75 tractors placed with the DGOF of the Defence Ministry. The Defence Ministry could not supply the entire requirements of the DDA in time, required for urgent reclamation programme.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister stated that the Defence Ministry could not supply in time. My question was whether the order was actually placed on the 26th February, 1960 or it was delayed and the delay was on the part of the Rehabilitation Ministry in placing this order on 26th April, 1960. I want to know whether the delay is due to placing the order or due to the inability of the Defence Ministry to supply in time?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The order was placed, as was decided, in April and it was stipulated in that order that delivery would be done by October, 1960. The delivery, for some reasons, has been delayed by the DGOF. They could only deliver the tractors from this month. The delivery date stipulated on the original order was October, 1960. There was no delay in placing the orders, as far as I remember.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total acreage of land so far reclaimed there and the acreage of land which has actually been cultivated?

Shri P. S. Naskar: I would draw the attention of the hon. Members to the details that have been given in the report that has been already circulated to hon. Members of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Every day a question is put as to what is the progress in Dandakaranya. How can there be progress? I am prepared to allow a discussion on Dandakaranya, until hon. Members are thoroughly satisfied, once in six months. I am prepared to allow three or four hours on Dandakaranya. In the meanwhile, hon. Members will go there and see for themselves from time to time. This would not allow the Government to move forward at all. Next question.

Shri Tangamani rose—

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow. I will allow him ample opportunity some other time.

Export of Iron Ore

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*868. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that possibilities for enlarging iron ore exports to European countries are being explored;

(b) if so, details of the efforts that are being made; and

(c) the progress made so far in connection therewith.

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

(a) to (c). Iron ore is already being exported to Europe. Possibilities of enlarging these exports are under examination with reference to specific demands as well as port and railway capacities.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Is it a fact that Italy, West Germany and Czechoslovakia have shown some interest in Indian iron ore and to ex-

port that, we will need to expand the ports in the South?

Shri Satish Chandra: Czechoslovakia is already purchasing considerable quantities of iron ore from us. Italy and West Germany had shown some interest in purchasing our iron ore from the west coast ports. Interest of West Germany has slackened in the recent period. Italy is already in the field; they have contracted for the purchase of about 1.5 lakh tons this year.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: May I know if any agreement has been reached with Rumania for export of Indian iron ore to that country?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Rumanian Minister of Commerce has arrived in Delhi only yesterday. Negotiations are proceeding.

Shri Basappa: May I know the possibilities of exporting low grade iron ore from west coast to Italy and other places and if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

Shri Satish Chandra: The iron ores that are being supplied from the west coast are both high grade and low grade. All the countries want to purchase certain quantities of high grade, medium grade and low grade ore in order to make a proper blend. Efforts are being made and the present capacity is being fully utilised. Further supplies from the west coast will depend on the development of additional railway and port capacity.

Shri Thirumala Rao: In the agreements between these countries and India, is there any stipulation that these ores should be taken in the vessels of the buying countries or is any portion reserved for Indian shipping also?

Shri Satish Chandra: A portion is reserved for Indian shipping. In reply to a question the other day I said that in the case of Japan, 10