

LOK SABHA

Monday, November 21, 1960/Kartika  
30, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Manufacture of Helicopters

•260. { <sup>+</sup> Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Defence be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have  
finally selected any particular helicop-  
ter for being manufactured in India;

(b) if so, what is the type selected;  
and

(c) when, how and where the manu-  
facture will be taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Defence  
(Sardar Majithia): (a) So far, no  
particular helicopter has finally been  
selected for being manufactured in  
India.

(b) and (c). Therefore, do not arise.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: What is  
the present requirement of India in this  
respect?

The Minister of Defence (Shri  
Krishna Menon): The requirement in  
terms of military equipment is not  
placed before the House. But the re-  
quirements of helicopter are helicop-  
ters which will negotiate very consi-  
derable heights.

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Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I  
know whether the proposals have  
been approved for collaboration with  
some other countries for the manufac-  
ture of this?

Shri Krishna Menon: No, Sir.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know  
whether any attempt has been made,  
or is being made, to manufacture some  
kind of helicopter in the Aircraft  
Manufacturing Depot at Kanpur, and  
whether a prototype was manufactur-  
ed?

Shri Krishna Menon: No, Sir.

Dr. Vijaya Ananda: May I know  
whether there is any scheme under  
which a specified number of helicop-  
ters are to be manufactured; if so,  
what is the period and number?

Shri Krishna Menon: There is at  
the present moment no scheme of  
manufacture. There are always  
schemes of development which, until  
the development is completed, are not  
published.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Recently  
a Chinese helicopter intruded into our  
area. May I know whether there is  
any proposal to patrol our border re-  
gion by helicopters and, if so, where-  
from they are going to get supplies  
of these helicopters?

Shri Krishna Menon: That does not  
arise out of the question, Sir.

Shri Nath Pal: In view of the need  
of our Defence Forces for helicopters  
there were press reports that they  
were negotiating, pending the manu-  
facture of helicopters in this country,  
to procure them from the Soviet  
Union. Has any contract been signed  
with the Soviet Union and, if so, when  
are the deliveries expected?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** I informed the House some time ago that we have got one helicopter from the Soviet Union; we have got another from the United States. Further negotiations are going on, and when the Air Force is satisfied, whichever aircraft it is which negotiates the heights, further steps will be taken in the matter.

**Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** May I know if the helicopter requirements of the Government are met in full or they are short of helicopters?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** We are short of helicopters.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** How long will it take Government to get going with this factory for the manufacture of helicopters?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** I said just now that there are no definite plans for the manufacture of helicopters. But all types of aircraft are generally developed and experiments go on in the Aircraft Manufacturing Depot which, until it is developed, it is premature to publish.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Is there any substance in the report which appeared in the *London Times* last month that having taken into consideration the peculiarities that this kind of helicopter would be required to satisfy, the Indian Government had finally decided to place orders with the Soviet Union; and is there any substance in the report that the orders having been placed, they are not being fulfilled, because of Chinese interference?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** Not at all, Sir.

**Shri Nath Pai:** 'Not at all' means, which?

**Mr. Speaker:** Neither. I will apply "Not at all" to both.

### Labour Laws

\*261. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Labour Laws applicable to other public sector undertakings have since been made applicable to the three Steel Plants; and

(b) if not, the reason, for the same?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the various statements made by the Labour Minister of Orissa and the Labour Commissioner, Orissa that there is gross violation of labour laws in the Rourkela steel plant? I want to know whether the labour laws have been implemented in Rourkela or not.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I am aware of the comments that appeared in the press. I also had an occasion to look at the report. Most of the things which are mentioned in that report have been rectified. There was one main point in which the labour officers of the Orissa Government insisted that each unit of the plant as it is getting ready should be separately registered under the Factories Act. There was some dispute on that. Action has since been taken to implement all the various things that were pointed out in that report.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether under the Industrial Disputes Act and Rules the Works Committees, Production Committees and Safety Committees are functioning in all these three steel plants; and, if not, why?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It should be remembered that production has started not long ago in these various steel plants. Even then, all the various departments of the steel plants have