

do not know how it was put to use. It has been given over to the P. & T. Department and it is for them to put the building to the best use.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: He has not replied to the second part of the question. What is the cost of the present building to be constructed?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am afraid, the hon. Member will have to ask a separate question.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: In view of the fact that the Government of India have allotted money for the construction of a posts and telegraphs office building in Agartala, because the present old building does not accommodate the ever-increasing volume of work, as the money is allowed to lapse every year, may I know whether the construction work will be taken up this year or not?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As far as I know, there may be a 100,000 buildings for the department in this country. How can I answer about each and every building off-hand? If the hon. Members could write to me about any particular building, I will supply the information.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Every year money is allotted and every year the money is lapsing.

Mr. Speaker: Probably, the hon. Member wants fair distribution among the States.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: So far as the engineering work in that particular State is concerned, they had hardly any organisation of their own. Therefore, of necessity there has been some delay in the execution of works in Tripura State.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know whether any tentative plan has been prepared for this purpose that places having a population of one lakh and more will be covered within the next five years.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is for the Communications Ministry to decide whether they would like us to do that.

श्री मन्त बर्मान : श्रीमन् मेरे प्रश्न के दूसरे खण्ड का जो उत्तर दिया गया वह स्पष्ट नहीं है। मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि सन् १९६१-६० में कितने रुपए का काम होगा। मुझे बताया गया कि बिल्डिंग्स तो बनेंगी। लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस साल पहले में ज्यादा काम होगा ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The hon. Member's question referred to the nature of the construction and, therefore, I gave a description of the works that would be undertaken. As far as I know, in 1961-62 the work contemplated would cost about Rs. 2 crores, in 1962-63 Rs. 3 crores and so on; that is to say, an additional construction of a crore is contemplated every year.

Export of Iron-ore

*867. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation of India has been successful in negotiating long-term agreements for the sale of iron-ore to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the long term agreements concluded with various countries for supply of Iron Ore, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 22A].

Shri Damani: According to the statement, a sale of two million tons of iron ore has been negotiated with Japan over a period of five years. May I know how the terms and conditions of this new sale compare with our previous sales to Japan?

Shri Kanungo: The price for each year is concluded by negotiation. The prices are fixed on terms of international prices ruling at that time. For

the current year, the negotiations are continuing.

Shri Damani: May I know whether the sales made to Czechoslovakia, Poland and other countries for long-term deliveries are on barter basis or just simply export basis?

Shri Kanungo: For Czechoslovakia the exports are on the basis of annual trade agreements, and the payments are adjusted from time to time, depending upon the export and import trade. It is not a specific barter.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Has the State Trading Corporation entered into an agreement that along with high grade ore they will have to take some low grade ore also and, if so, what is the percentage of low grade ore that they have to take?

Shri Kanungo: We have been trying to do that. But our difficulty is movement, because the movement of low grade ore to the ports is much more expensive.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether the entire export of iron ore is now being channelled through the State Trading Corporation or the private sources are also allowed to export?

Shri Kanungo: It is channelled through the STC entirely.

Shri Damani: May I know whether the STC has given any indication of the iron exports they expect to make during this year and next year?

Shri Kanungo: Yes; the contracts have been entered. It is now public property. Everyone knows it.

Shri Achar: Regarding Rumania I find from the statement that 17 lakh tons is agreed to without any condition, but with regard to 9,50,000 tons it is said that it is at "seller's option", that is, our option. What is the reason for that? Are we not able to supply?

Shri Kanungo: No, we are not because our transport system is so

loaded that we cannot satisfy all the buyer's needs.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Certain negotiations were being arrived on for the export of iron ore to Italy but it was pending the finalisation of the development of Mangalore Port into a major port. Since a decision has been taken about that, may I know at what stage the negotiations with Italy are?

Shri Kanungo: The development of Mangalore Port has not progressed very far. Apart from the development of the Port, communications in the hinterland are also very important. Those communications are not good.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Government are entering not into immediate export contracts but also long-term contracts. They are entering into certain agreements for two or three years hence. I am talking about that.

Shri Kanungo: After the improvement of the Port at Mangalore, which is included in the Third Plan, progresses to a certain extent it will be worth while to negotiate for sales and not now.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: Besides these long-term contracts, is the STC also exporting iron ore on short-term basis to other countries? If so, which are the non-traditional countries to which the STC is exporting iron ore?

Shri Kanungo: Yes. The STC is always prepared to do that. But as I said earlier the limitations against offering for sale are the lack of internal transport and port handling.

Shri Damani: My idea in asking the previous question was this. As we want to increase our exports during the Third Five Year Plan period, has the STC prepared any plan? Can it give any idea of how much iron ore they may export and what is the target for this year and for the next year?

Shri Kanungo: The current year's and the next year's target is there. 1961 it is 35 lakhs tons, that is, estimated. We expect to increase it gradually. But we cannot be sure about the targets until transport facilities are available.

पोलिस्टीन पाउडर

*८६८. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्रों यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्लास्टिक उद्योग में पोलिस्टीन के प्रयोग में कटौती के कारण संकट उत्पन्न हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो क्या सरकार को कारखाने वालों से इस बारे में कोई प्रावेदन-पत्र मिला है कि कटौती बहान कर दी जाये ; और

(ग) यदि हां तो सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाया है ?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). No, Sir. Some representations have been received requesting improvement in supplies. The following steps are being taken:—

- (i) Adequate imports have been permitted to the small scale manufacturers over and above the indigenous supplies.
- (ii) Additional raw material, viz., Styrene, is being made available under D.L.F. assistance to the indigenous manufacturer for increasing production of Polystyrene.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पोलिस्टीन के कट करने से किस भाषा में यहाँ की प्लास्टिक इण्डस्ट्री को नुकसान पहुँचा है ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : कोई नुकसान नहीं पहुँचा है । यह इतनी ज्यादा ताबाब में बढ़

रही है कि हमारे पास इतना फारेन एक्सचेंज नहीं है कि हम उस पर खर्च करें और इस इण्डस्ट्री को प्रागे बढ़ायें ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार ने कोई उपाय यहाँ सोचा है जिसमें कि पोलिस्टीन की जगह पर कोई सब्स्टिट्यूट निकले ताकि कभी इस का इम्पोर्ट बन्द होने का मौका प्राये तो भी हमारे यहाँ इण्डस्ट्रीज पनप सकें ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : तीन साल में कप्टी का प्रोडक्शन इम डाइरेक्शन में कोई दसगुना हो जायेगा और हम एक्सपोर्ट कर सकेंगे ।

श्री त्यागी : क्या इस बात की कोई कोशिश की गई है कि जो प्लास्टिक सामान यहाँ बनाता है वह बाहर के मुल्कों को भी एक्सपोर्ट हो सके ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वह तो हो रहा है । लेकिन यह क्वेश्चन और किस्म का है । यह छोटी इण्डस्ट्रीज को पोलिस्टीन पाउडर के सप्लाय के सम्बन्ध में है । प्लास्टिक का एक्सपोर्ट हो रहा है और प्रागे और ज्यादा होने की गुंजाइश है ।

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any representation has been received by the hon. Minister from small-scale industries in Calcutta?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes. I myself had been there and under the chairmanship of Dr. B. C. Roy we met all the moulders and distributed to them a larger quantity than what was available to them in the past.

Shri Tyagi: The hon. Minister has just now stated that manufactured articles from polystyrene are also being exported. Then I do not know what is the reason for not allowing any import licence for this article.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The drain on foreign exchange by imports is far more than what we can earn through exports. That is why there is a net debit.