

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the total amount spent on the tours of the Members of this Planning Commission?

Shri Hathl: As I said just now, there are only two Members drawing pay, and their salaries are Rs. 2,250/- and Rs. 1,800/-.

Mr. Speaker: Can he give the break-up figures for tours?

Shri Hathl: I have no figures with me for that.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I have one question.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question. There are other questions.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: The Planning Commission.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let the Planning Commission report come.

METALLURGICAL COAL

*543. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that all types of metallurgical coal will be reserved for stowing and washing?

(b) For how many years is the reserve calculated to last?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) It is intended that compulsory stowing for conservation will be enforced in the case of all mines working metallurgical coal, of selected grades and also of grades I and II, if they can be benefited to give large yields of low ash coal. Washing will be necessary primarily in the case of inferior grades of coal so as to make such coal suitable for metallurgical purposes. The problems connected with stowing for conservation and of coal washing are now engaging the attention of the Coal Board, but no detailed plans have yet been finalised by the Board.

(b) At the present rate of output, the reserves of metallurgical coal will last for about 80 years, if no new reserves are discovered and if no measures are taken for stowing, blending and washing; but with stowing, blending and washing, the present reserves will last for about 160 years and for a longer period according to the extent of discovery of new reserves.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING

*544. **Prof. Agarwal:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether Government have drawn up definite schemes for the utilisation of Rupees Nine crores on Industrial Housing during 1952-53?

(b) If so, how many new houses are expected to be completed during the current year?

(c) Which cities have been included in the scheme?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) As the hon. Member is probably aware, a Subsidised Housing Scheme for industrial workers for the current financial year has already been published. Out of a total provision of Rs. 9 crores in the current year's Budget, a sum of over Rs. 7.16 crores is proposed to be spent on industrial housing alone. The balance of the amount, is available to be spent on schemes of slum clearance and loans to House-building Societies of non-industrial low-income groups if suitable schemes are forthcoming.

(b) 28,500 single-roomed tenements are scheduled for construction, under the current year's provision.

(c) The Government's Scheme does not confine itself to particular cities. It is for the various State Governments to scrutinise the requirements of the various cities within their jurisdiction before sending their proposals for aid to the Central Govt. They would doubtless have regard to the pressure of industrial labour and the existing available accommodation for such labour before they forward their proposals to the Central Government.

Prof. Agarwal: Is there any provision in the scheme for the construction of the houses through labour co-operatives?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir.

Prof. Agarwal: Is there any provision for the construction of houses for labour engaged in small-scale industries in cities?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir, if they came within the definition of industrial labour.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is there any scheme for industrial housing round about Calcutta?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, the policy adopted in slum clearance in cities—whether they are merely sent out by paying a nominal price to the huts, or whether alternative hutments are provided for them?

Mr. Speaker: I do not see how it arises, really speaking.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In answer to part (b) of the question, the Minister said that some amount has been reserved for slum clearance in cities. Therefore, I am asking about the policy adopted.

Mr. Speaker: What is the policy about slum clearance?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Slum clearance is necessarily linked with the provision of some sort of housing for those who are displaced. Otherwise, it is not a scheme.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether the schemes for building houses in different cities can be modified by the different States, and if so, whether any such request will be considered by the Central Government?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Actually, we do not impose any schemes for the various cities or upon the various State Governments. It is for the various State Governments to sponsor schemes, and I am pretty certain that they will take good care to see that they fit in with the local conditions and requirements.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Have the Government received any plan from the Bengal Government in respect of slum clearance in the Calcutta Port area?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir. Not for the Port area.

CHANDNI PAPER MILLS

***545. Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state when the Chandni Paper Mills will go into production?

(b) What will be its total capacity of production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) By about the middle of 1953.

(b) 30,000 tons per annum.

Shri Eswara Reddy: Is it State-owned, or private-owned, and if private-owned, who are the proprietors?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Mill had a chequered history. It was started by private enterprise, and it did not proceed very far. The Madhya Pradesh Government have taken over control at the moment, and I suppose along with that goes the responsibility for finding the necessary finance.

Shri Eswara Reddy: Is there any aid given by the State? Is it State-aided?

Mr. Speaker: I think he said that it has been taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Shri Eswara Reddy: What is the amount and nature of the State aid?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a company which was originally started with a five crore capital. The issued capital is about Rs. 1.5 crores. The subscribed capital is Rs. 1.4 crores, out of which a share has been taken by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. But they found that with Rs. 1.4 crores the company could not flourish, and so they have been pumping in money since they took over. The estimated cost of the entire scheme is expected to be about Rs. 4.5 crores ultimately.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Are we to understand that this mill is the same as the Nepa Mills?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir. It is the identical mill.

VISIT OF AN EXPERT TO CHANDNI PAPER MILLS

***546. Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any experts have visited the site of the plant for the Chandni Paper Mills and offered any technical advice?

(b) Who were they and what was their advice?

(c) Will there be any foreign technicians on the staff of the factory?

(d) From where is the machinery being imported and is it the best available in the world market?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mr. C. A. Harwick and Mr. F. C. Gardner, the Industrial Manager and Vice-President respectively of Messrs Ebasco Services Inc. New York, who are the consultants of Nepa Mills. They are satisfied that the plant is well designed and is in conformity with modern engineering practice and that the quality of work completed is satisfactory in every respect.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Mostly from the U.S.A. and a few from the U.K. The Mills have been assured by their consultants that the most modern machinery of proven performance is being obtained.

Shri Eswara Reddy: Before getting the machinery from the United States of America and the United Kingdom,