

Shri K. C. Reddy: May I suggest that all the three questions, 1056, 1057 and 1058, concerning the Hindusthan Housing Factory may be taken together? All these relate to the Hindusthan Housing Factory.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

HINDUSTHAN HOUSING FACTORY

*1056. **Shri Matthen:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to starred question No. 104 asked on the 17th February, 1953 and state the progress of the Hindusthan Housing Factory Ltd. (former Government Housing Factory) since they have taken charge of their factory and assets?

(b) Are Basakha Singh Wallenborg Ltd. still the Managing Agents of the said factory?

(c) Has there been any change in the constitution or personnel of this managing agency firm?

(d) Is the Swedish Firm still co-operating with the Managing Agents?

(e) If not, have Messrs. Basakha Singh secured any other technical advisers in place of the former?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The Hindusthan Housing Factory Limited took over the buildings, plant and machinery of the Government Housing Factory on the 1st April 1953. At present they are busy reconditioning and repairing these machinery and buildings and appreciable progress has been made in this regard. They are also putting up additional constructions wherever necessary, procuring additional machinery from Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Ltd. on lease, and making necessary arrangements for starting production in all sections by about October, 1953.

(b) to (e). There was no proposal or intention at any time to appoint Managing Agents. Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited are equal partners with the Government of India in the Hindusthan Housing Factory
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Limited, a private Limited Company set up to manage the affairs of the Factory. There has been no change in the constitution or personnel of Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited. The foreign partners in that firm continue to co-operate.

MACHINERY FOR THE HINDUSTHAN HOUSING FACTORY

*1057. **Shri Matthen:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether the machinery for the Hindusthan Housing Factory referred to in the answer to starred question No. 104 asked on the 17th February, 1953, has arrived or not?

(b) Have the Company been able to manufacture pre-stress concrete articles?

(c) If so, what is the quantity and value of the same?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The following items of machinery have already arrived:—

(i) Pipe making plant.

(ii) Wood-working plant.

Machinery for pre-stressed concrete manufacture has already been shipped from Europe.

Machinery suitable for steel fabrication and a few minor items of laboratory and other equipment not available in India are being ordered and procured abroad.

(b) and (c). The company expects to start production of pre-stressed concrete components in November, 1953.

PAYMENT OF RENT BY HINDUSTHAN HOUSING FACTORY

*1058. **Shri Matthen:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether the Hindusthan Housing Factory has paid any part of the rent stipulated in the agreement?

(b) What is the present position of the large stock of material of the old Government Housing Factory and who is in charge of them?

(c) Are any of those materials in the possession of the new company?

(d) If so, what is its value?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Not yet. Under clause 11 of the agreement dated 6th December 1952 between the Government of India and Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited, the Hindusthan Housing Factory Limited have been permitted to defer payment of rent for the first three years if there are not enough profits.

(b) A portion of the surplus stocks, valued at about 1.75 lakhs has been transferred to the Central Public Works Department. The rest are being disposed of mainly through the Directorate-General of Supplies and Disposals. A small Government cell retained in the Housing Factory, Jangpura, is in charge of maintenance of the stores till they are disposed of.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Matthen: Has not the aluminium part of the stores worth about Rs. 30 lakhs been disposed of?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The whole value of the surplus store is about Rs. 35 lakhs. I do not know at present what is the exact value of the aluminium part of the stores. As I said, attempts are being made to dispose of all these stores through the Directorate-General of Supplies and Disposals. I may inform the hon. Member that a special meeting is being convened in the next few days in order to expedite the whole process and to see what best value we can get for these stores.

Shri Matthen: Is the hon. Minister happy about these arrangements?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is only subjective.

Shri K. C. Reddy: In this world of ours, Sir, one can only be as happy as circumstances permit.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether the Government are again investing any amount in this business.

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir. One of the main items in the agreement entered into between the company and the Government is that all additional machinery has to be imported by and the value thereof will have to be met by our partners, Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the premium was received by the Government in granting the lease, and whether the rent is dependent on the profit there?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The rent is to be calculated on the equivalent to the depreciation that has to be allowed according to the Income-tax Law. It does not depend on profits, excepting to a limited extent. As I have said, we can defer payment of rent for the first three years—not write off.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Is the value of the surplus stores—Rs. 35 lakhs—the book value that was originally spent by Government on those articles or is it the market value?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is the book value.

Shri Radha Raman: What is the latest position of the losses so far incurred on this account?

Shri K. C. Reddy: So far as the new company is concerned, no losses have so far resulted. It is too early to say whether they have earned a profit or loss. Probably the hon. Member is referring to the losses incurred by the old Housing Factory.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Minister in a position to give that answer?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It has not been worked out. It has to be worked out finally.

Shri Natesan: May I know, Sir, the actual cash invested by Messrs. Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited?

Shri K. C. Reddy: As I have said, they have already imported certain items of machinery. I do not know the exact amount spent by them upto now. But the estimate is, they are expected to invest about Rs. 17 lakhs for the additional machinery and at least about Rs. 10 lakhs for the working capital.

Shri Matthen: What is the value of the machinery imported by Basakha Singh Wallenborg Limited?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The total cost which is expected to be incurred is Rs. 17 lakhs. I am not in a position to say what exactly they have incurred so far.

VISAKHAPATNAM SHIPYARD

***1060. Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had stated that about twenty ships to the aggregate tonnage of 100,000 tons G.R.T. will be built at the Visakhapatnam Shipyard during the period of the Plan i.e., 1951-52 to 1955-56;

(b) whether it is a fact that keels for five ships have been laid from the beginning of the planning period up to now; and

(c) when it is proposed to lay the keels for further fifteen ships at Visakhapatnam?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes, a statement envisaging such a programme has been made in the "Programmes of Industrial Development 1951-56" published by the Planning Commission.

(b) Keels of six ships have been laid since the beginning of the Plan period. Two ships were completed of which the keels had been laid before the Plan period.

(c) Besides the five ships already delivered during the Plan period, three ships for which keels have been laid are under construction. The

shipyard propose to lay the keels for seven more ships before the end of 1954-55. At this stage no definite indication can be given of the programme for any subsequent period.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DISPLACED PERSONS IN MANIPUR

***1059. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities provided to the displaced persons settled in the rural areas of Manipur for raising their crops, medical help and education of their children;

(b) whether money provided by the Central Government to the displaced students in Manipur for giving financial assistance has lapsed every year from 1949; and

(c) if so, the reason why displaced students are not being given further financial assistance?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The following facilities have been provided:—

- (i) Land for cultivation and homestead;
- (ii) Loan for the construction of huts, purchase of seeds, cattle and agricultural implements;
- (iii) Food loans for maintenance till the next harvest;
- (iv) Medical Officers of the nearest dispensaries are required to visit the colonies twice a week;
- (v) Four schools have been opened for the primary education of children of displaced persons. They are provided free books, stationery and free tuition.
- (vi) Construction of suitable channels and dams for providing irrigational facilities has also been sanctioned.