

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Kinds of people who consume it? Next question.

#### SITE FOR STEEL PLANT

\*367. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether the site for the Steel Plant to be established under the Five Year Plan had been decided upon?

(b) If so, what steps have so far been taken and what progress has so far been made in this direction?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) No final decision regarding the site has been taken.

(b) It is assumed that the hon. Member wants to know the steps that have so far been taken and the progress made in respect of starting a new steel plant in India and its location. A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 30.]

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** May I know the different places which were recommended?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Several places have been recommended on several occasions by various committees. I might mention a few of them. For instance, in Bihar, Sindri has been recommended; originally Monghyr had been recommended; in Orissa, two sites have been recommended, Hirakud and Rourkela; in Madhya Pradesh, Bhilai has been recommended.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** May I know the reason for this extraordinary delay?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** There has been no avoidable delay. This is a very complicated question, especially in view of the fact that a plant of such a magnitude has not been so far tried in this country. Various technical questions have got to be taken into account, before a final decision is taken. Moreover, the starting of a plant of this nature requires technical and foreign assistance and participation. Their recommendation also is necessary, before a final decision is taken in regard to the choice of the site.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** May I know whether in view of the fact that high quality ore is found in Bastar, the location of the factory there is also under consideration?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I am afraid it is not under consideration.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Is it a fact that in Salem district, it is estimated to have about 375 million tons of iron ore, which meet India's needs for about 200 years? Is there any proposal to locate any factory in Salem or nearabout Salem district?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Unfortunately there is no suitable coal there.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether these recommendations came from the State Governments or from the experts who were appointed by the Central Government?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** The State Governments also have put in their representations. Each State Government has very strongly recommended that a particular site in their State is the most suitable. At the same time, certain technical committees also have gone into this question. They have also made their recommendations.

**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that a representation in this respect has been made by the Madhya Pradesh Government, in which it has been proved that as far as iron ore is concerned, Madhya Pradesh would be the best site for the location of this factory?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Regarding the first part of the hon. Member's question, the answer is in the affirmative. Regarding the second part, I cannot commit myself definitely.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know what was the recommendation of the expert committee that was appointed some three or four months ago?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** They have been unable to make any definite and final recommendation. They have stated.

"A definite recommendation cannot be made regarding the location

and the proposed facilities, which depend upon several factors."

They have canvassed the possibilities of establishing this factory at various places, and they have given their opinions thereon, but they have not made any final and definite recommendation.

**Shri Kelappan:** According to the Five Year Plan, about Rs. 30 crores are to be spent during the Plan period. Shall we be able to see the time-table, now that even the site has not been selected?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Government will be spending that amount during this Plan period, and make progress in regard to the establishment of the plant. Every effort will be made in that direction.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** How many years ago were the recommendations, about the sites, made by the three foreign consultants? Was it five or six years ago?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I have given all the information in the statement that I have placed on the Table of the House.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** Was it five or six years ago? No decision has been taken on this very important recommendation.

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** In 1948-49, some recommendations were made by the three foreign consultants.

**Shri Nanadas:** Various sites have been recommended in the various reports. May I know whether all these reports will be available for Members?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Not the entire reports. So far as the reports that were submitted in 1948 are concerned, a summary of these reports have been made available to the Members, and they have been placed on the Table of the House.

#### ENQUIRY INTO SYNTHETIC DRUGS

\*368. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any

inquiry into synthetic drugs has been started by Government?

(b) Is the Drugs Controller also associated with the Enquiry Committee?

(c) Is it within the terms of reference to the Enquiry Committee to examine (i) the technical aspects of the manufacture of synthetic drugs, (ii) the lines along which production should be organized and (iii) the ancillary developments to be undertaken, in the field of chemical industry?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Yes, Sir. The enquiry covers all drugs used in allopathic medicine.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The terms of reference of the Committee cover all these points.

#### DELHI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' DELEGATION TO CHINA

\*369. **Shri Amjad Ali:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the students' delegation from the University of Delhi has been held back on account of non-availability of passports to China?

(b) Were the said students going to China at the invitation of the Chinese University Union?

(c) Why was grant of passports considered undesirable?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) to (c). The question whether the delegation of students from the Delhi University should visit China was carefully examined by Government in consultation with the Delhi University authorities. It was considered that a delegation of this kind visiting a foreign country should be carefully selected and arranged on a reciprocal basis after due consultation between the Governments and the Universities concerned on both sides. Government also considered that it would not be proper for students to accept financial aid and hospitality from foreign Students' Unions except on a reciprocal basis and after preliminary and satisfactory consultations in regard to financial and other arrangements.