

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Actually the entire thing is being done by the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board.

**PHYSICS AND SOILS LABORATORIES**

\*615. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the main work done in the new Physics and Soils laboratories at Poona, in 1953;

(b) whether any research work was undertaken there;

(c) if so, what it is; and

(d) whether a photo elastic laboratory also is going to be started there?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21.]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Photoelastic Laboratory has already been set up in the Physics Division of the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether State Governments are allowed to utilise these laboratories for experimenting on things when they need?

**Shri Hathi:** Yes. The State Governments are also sending several problems which are being worked out in these laboratories.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether other new items are going to be taken up in the next year?

**Shri Hathi:** That will depend upon the nature of work that comes to the laboratory.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Which are the Ministries that are being benefited by this laboratory?

**Shri Hathi:** The Transport Ministry is one. Naturally, the Irrigation Ministry is there, and Natural Resources Ministry also.

**TELEPHONE CABLE FACTORY**

\*616. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telephone Cable Factory has reached the stage of production; and

(b) what would be the recurring expenditure over the establishment of this Factory?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) Several of the shops have already been commissioned for production and it is expected that the production of unarmoured cables will have begun by the end of the current month. The production of armoured cables is likely to commence in May or June.

(b) About Rupees Five lakhs per year as estimated at the end of 1950. A revised estimate is now being prepared.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** Is it a fact that this factory was to start production in February this year, and if so, why this delay?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** There has not been much of delay. We are more or less keeping to the time schedule. At one stage we made attempts to see that the factory went into production in December last, but the requisite plant and machinery did not come as we expected. Therefore, there had been a put-off in the schedule by about two months.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** May I know if any foreigner has got any interest in this factory?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** No, Sir. Foreigners have no interest in the factory perhaps in the sense in which the hon. Member understands it. But, we are in collaboration with a foreign firm, the Standard telephone and Cable Co., who have given us the 'know-how' and are working with us in the establishment of this factory.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know if this factory will be able to supply all the requirements of cables for the Posts and Telegraphs?