

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I have attempted to reply to that question by saying that the position is being examined. The difficulty is that there are places where palaces are available out residential accommodation is not available, and vice versa. Therefore, unless both the office and residential accommodation is available at a particular place, that place cannot be considered as suitable for shifting some of the offices outside Delhi.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know whether the residential accommodation which may be built near such palaces and buildings will be cheaper than the accommodation which will be built in Delhi?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** That is a hypothetical question, and it is not very desirable to go on spending large sums of money in places far from each other and scattered all over the country. If there is any particular place in the mind of the hon. Member I can get it examined.

#### KOSI PROJECT (RAILWAY LINE)

\*1336. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the mileage and estimated cost of the Railway line to be constructed for the Kosi Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Railway line is designed to pass through important commercial centres and Administrative Headquarters of Nepal Government; and

(c) if so, what are those places and what percentage of cost will be borne by the Nepal Government?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** (a) to (c). The Project Report is still under preparation, and the final alignment of the railway line will be decided as soon as the Project Report is finalised.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know by what time the report will be finalised?

**Shri Nanda:** It may not take more than two or three months, but I am not quite sure.

#### IRON, STEEL AND CEMENT

\*1337. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present stocks of iron, steel and cement in India;

(b) whether they are sufficient to meet the existing requirements of the

country for agricultural and other purposes; and

(c) whether there is shortage, the extent thereof?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 51.]

(b) No, Sir.

#### GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY

\*1338. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of the construction of the Government Housing Factory, New Delhi;

(b) the annual target of its production; and

(c) its annual maintenance cost?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the report on the working of the Government Housing Factory placed on the Table of the House on 4th June 1952 in reply to Starred Question No. 463.

(b) The Factory is not producing anything at present and its annual target of production has not yet been fixed.

(c) The maintenance cost incurred by Government after the Factory suspended production in January 1951 upto 30th April 1952, works out to about Rs. 4,73,000 per annum. The Government will cease to incur any maintenance expenditure in future, if the scheme to form a Company consisting of Government and an Indo-Swedish Firm as partners materialises, when the Factory will be leased to the said Company.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** What is the number of houses produced in the factory in 1951 and 1952?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I have already said in the course of my answer that the factory suspended production from January 1951. So how can there be houses produced?

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** May I know the reason for the suspension of production?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** For several reasons we had to terminate the contract with the Structural Engineering Co. Ltd., and since the termination of the contract the factory has suspended