

production. Now we are carrying on negotiations with another firm and as soon as an agreement is entered into with them production will begin again.

Mr. Speaker: I may just inform hon. Members that a good lot of questions were put on this matter during the time of the Provisional Parliament and it would be better to get the whole history by a reference to the previous proceedings rather than put the same questions once again.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if the Government are going to place on the Table of the House the reports of those two Committees which investigated into this Pre-fab factory?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot promise anything at present. There are certain developments which may likely take place in the near future in the light of which it may not be desirable to place the reports on the Table of the House at present.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the total loss the national exchequer suffered on account of this housing factory?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. This question was put and answered several times.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Has the Swedish firm given any guarantee that it will not be a failure just like the British firm?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The agreement is not yet finalised.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the answer given by the hon. Minister that a huge sum of Rs. 4 lakhs is spent every year on maintenance, may I know what steps Government will take to immediately bring it into production so that this unnecessary wastage may be ended?

Shri K. C. Reddy: We are taking every possible step and it will be a matter of days, I believe, before the agreement with the Indo-Swedish firm will be finalised.

PAPER

*1339. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of paper produced in India and the quantity imported from abroad during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52; and

(b) the number of paper producing factories in India and their location?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the

House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 52.] The production in 1951-52 was 135,091 tons and the imports were 27,047 tons.

(b) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 5 by Shri S. C. Samanta on 19th May, 1952.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the total requirements of the country?

Shri Karmarkar: The total requirements estimated at present are 196,000 tons of paper of all sorts.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the percentage of our shortage?

Shri Karmarkar: Our production is 135,000 tons and our requirements are 196,000 tons—so the percentage can be calculated.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know if Government are taking any steps to make the country self-sufficient in this regard?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, Government are taking all steps to see that the country is made self-sufficient as early as possible and it is expected that by 1957 we will be largely self-sufficient.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जितने कारखाने अभी तक कागज बनाने के चल रहे हैं उन के सिवा कितने कारखाने और हैं जो कि अभी बन रहे हैं और उन का काम कब से शुरू हो जाने की उम्मीद है ?

श्री कर्मकार : मैं जानता हूँ कि एडी-शनल यूनिट इस वर्ष में नया पैदा होने वाला है और जो यूनिट्स इस समय हैं उन का काम बढ़ने वाला है ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what the Government is doing in order to supply the required newsprint for the Indian press?

Shri Karmarkar: I think an earlier question was answered with regard to a newsprint mill in Madhya Pradesh which is supposed to have a capacity of 30,000 tons as against our requirements of 64,000 tons.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is the Minister aware that there is a nucleus of a newsprint factory in Vuyyur in Andhra and may I know whether any grant-in-aid has been asked by the

management of that factory from the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I can find that out.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the raw materials such as bamboo and sabai grass are enough to supply the needs of the country so that the factories will produce enough for the country?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. Our information is that we have sufficient raw materials in the country.

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा कि नये युनिट पैदा होने वाले हैं, क्या उम्मीद करनी चाहिये कि वे ९ और १० महीने के अन्दर पैदा हो जायेंगे ?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

WELFARE OF LABOUR IN TEA ESTATES

*1342. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the amount obtained from the Central Tea Board for promoting the welfare of labour in Tea Estates in 1951-52;

(b) the amount allocated to Bihar for the said purpose;

(c) whether the amount allocated has been spent for the training of workers in subsidiary occupations;

(d) whether the State concerned contributed any amount towards the said purpose and if so, to what extent; and

(e) whether there was any local contribution and if so, how much?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Rs. 4 lakhs.

(b) Rs. 7,000/-

(c) The Welfare Scheme drawn up by the Bihar Government provides for the training of workers in useful handicrafts etc. and for recreational facilities. The Scheme will be executed by the State Government after the contributions proposed by that Government are voted by the Legislature.

(d) The State Government have contributed a sum of Rs. 2,000.

(e) There has been no local contribution so far.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know, Sir, the allocation of money to each State? Is it based on population or income?

Shri V. V. Giri: According to the population there.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know, Sir, if any scheme was submitted by State Governments for approval to the Central Government?

Shri V. V. Giri: There was some scheme submitted; but the scheme has not yet come into existence.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know whether the State of Bihar has submitted any scheme?

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know, Sir, with reference to answer to part (a) of the question, whether the Central Tea Board is making a contribution of Rs. 4 lakhs annually or did it make the contribution only once?

Shri V. V. Giri: Only once.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know Sir, whether Government propose to make the Central Tea Board contribute annually?

Shri V. V. Giri: Some representation was made.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know the decision of the Government on that matter?

Shri V. V. Giri: Very doubtful.

Shri B. N. Misra: May I know whether the Government of India is aware that the condition of the labourers of Chattisgarh who have gone to the Assam tea gardens is not good and that they are not properly fed?

Shri V. V. Giri: I take the information.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know, in what subsidiary occupations these workers are trained in?

Shri V. V. Giri: They are not being trained. They are going to be trained when this scheme is introduced in spinning, weaving and basket-making and so forth.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, out of the cess collected what amount is going for the labour welfare in the tea plantations?

Shri V. V. Giri: I want notice.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what steps Government propose to