

(d) A copy of the orders on the subject issued by the D.V.C. is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 3.]

(e) Yes Sir.

Sari Krishna Chandra: The statement supplied to me reveals that prior to the period of audit there were instructions that no contract should be given without inviting tenders. In view of that may I know whether the contracts given without inviting tenders were in contravention of those instructions?

Shri Hath: There were orders even prior to this that no work should be given without inviting tenders. The limits for different officers were different. In this particular case, looking to the urgency of the work as there was shortage of housing and as access roads were to be made urgently, this work was given by negotiations at a higher level.

Sari Krishna Chandra: May I know whether this explanation was put before the auditors before they made the observations and whether it was considered by the auditors?

Shri Hath: This was subsequently explained and no further comments were received.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: What was the authority for the negotiation? You said at a higher level. What is the higher level?

Shri Hath: D.V.C. Sir. Contracts up to Rs. 2,000 can be given by a Sub-Divisional Officer and above Rs. 5,000 by an officer above the rank of a Divisional Officer. No contracts can be given by the Corporation without calling for tenders.

Shri Krishna Chandra: May I know the amounts involved in the contracts that were given in the first instance?

Shri Hath: About a lakh of rupees.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether this irregularity had happened with regard to Bokaro Thermal Station only or to any other project?

Shri Hath: So far as I know this is the only instance.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: No tenders were invited?

Shri Hath: It was by negotiation.

Shri G. P. Sinha: What is the total amount of contract given by negotiation and by tender?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has already replied, a lakh of rupees.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Without calling the tenders?

Shri Hath: One lakh of rupees.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Without negotiations and without calling for tenders?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there a third category of contract, without negotiation and without tender? How can that be?

Shri Hath: I require notice.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know whether this practice is prevalent in all the cases?

Shri Hath: No, Sir.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is it a fact that the Kuljan Corporation who have been the Consulting Engineers to the D.V.C. have got the purchasing contract? If so, why?

Shri Hath: I may submit that this does not arise from this particular question.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know the number of works, the value of which comes to one lakh rupees approximately?

Shri Hath: I require notice.

MANUFACTURE OF PENICILLIN

*1140. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the progress made for the manufacture of Penicillin in India?

(b) When is the Indian-made Penicillin expected to be in Indian markets?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The construction of the Penicillin Factory buildings at Pimpri is in progress and is expected to be completed by about March 1953. Orders for a major portion of the plant and equipment have been placed. The erection of the Factory is scheduled to be completed by October 1953 and production of Penicillin to start by the end of 1953.

(b) About the end of 1953 or beginning of 1954.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know the approximate quantity of penicillin to be produced in this concern and how does it compare to the normal demand?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No quantity is produced at present.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Things expected to be produced—all this has been asked at various stages

Shri K. C. Reddy: I can give the information if the hon Member wants. The total production will be about 7,50,000 mega units per month, but to begin with 4 lakhs mega units per month.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether this concern is a public managed or a private managed one?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is now being looked after departmentally. The idea is to convert it into a private limited company later on.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether any foreign aid has been secured for it, if so, the nature of the aid and the country from which the aid has been secured?

Shri K. C. Reddy: This will be built up in collaboration with the UNICEF and W.H.O. They have no financial interest in this project but the U.N.I.C.E.F. will provide us with the necessary machinery which will cost about 8,50,000 dollars. The W.H.O. will give us help by way of providing technical personnel which is expected to cost about 3,50,000 dollars.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what is the necessity for the change of the factory site from the place which was originally intended?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not know exactly what the position is about this. Sir, but I believe that this factory was intended to be located in the Bombay State and now it is located at Pimpri near Poona.

Shri G. P. Sinha: What is the present arrangement for import of penicillin? Has the distribution been handed over to one British firm?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That does not arise out of this.

विस्थापित व्यापारियों को ऋण

* ११४१. श्री बाल्मीकि : (क) क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री छोटे-मोटे विस्थापित व्यापारियों को १९५१-५२ में अग्रिम बिये गये ऋणों की राशि बतलान की कृपा करेंगे?

(ख) ऐसे कितने व्यापारियों को ऋण मिले हैं ?

(ग) कितने समय में और कितनी राशि की किश्तों में यह राशि लौटायी जाने वाली है ?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhoosle): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

श्री बाल्मीकि : आवाज सुनार् नहीं दी ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Information will be placed on the Table of the House.

SAFETY MATCHES

*1142. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) the total quantity of safety matches annually produced in India;

(b) the number, names and location of factories producing safety matches, along with the quantity produced by each;

(c) the present method of distribution of safety matches; and

(d) whether Government is planning to introduce a zonal system of distribution of safety matches, as is the practice in the case of cement?

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

(a) About 540,000 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each. ●

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given on the 21st July, 1952 to parts (a) and (b) of Starred Question No. 1909 asked by Shri Ganpati Ram. It is not considered desirable to divulge information regarding production by each unit.

(c) Each match factory arranges distribution of its own products.

(d) No, Sir.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the approximate amount of foreign capital invested in the match industry and the percentage of match industry controlled by WIMCO?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: WIMCO in regard to the four factories which it controls has a capital of about 50 per cent, which comes to about Rs. 1,10,00,000.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The answer is not clear. He asked the share of foreign capital in match industry in India. The answer is that some subsidiary firm has 50 per cent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: WIMCO was specially referred to by the hon. Member