

be guaranteed by Government, either Central or State?

Shri Kanungo : No, Sir.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha : May I know whether in the matter of the selection of the site, the firm consulted also the Central Government?

Shri Kanungo : The licence is granted by a Licensing Committee which takes into consideration all factors including the location of the site.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav : May I know the propriety of selecting Cherrapunji for the location of this factory?

Shri Kanungo : Cherrapunji is in Assam, where the demand for cement is increasing.

DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

*669. **Shri Shree Narayan Das :** Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been finalised between the Government of India and a British Company for a steel plant at Durgapur; and

(b) if so, the important features of the agreement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 8.]

Shri Shree Narayan Das : From the statement it appears that only a broad agreement has been reached. May I know the time by which details of the agreement would be available?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : As soon as the heads of agreement are signed, I expect I shall be able to place the details of the agreement before the House.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : From the statement we find that a syndicate of British banks, and the Government of United Kingdom have agreed to give credits. May I know whether the terms

and conditions of repayment of this loan have been decided upon?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : Broadly, in regard to the repayment of the credit extended by British banks, they have been decided upon, but no final agreements have been arranged. So far as the British loan is concerned, the answer is, no.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : May I know whether participation in the capital is contemplated by any British concern in the Durgapur steel plant?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : No.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : In view of the very high bank rate prevailing in England now, have Government gone into the entire question as to whether this is the best loan agreement which we should enter into?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : It is expected that by the time we take advantage of it, the bank rate in Britain would come down.

Dr. Rama Rao : What is the exact rate of interest that we are agreeing to pay on this loan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : There are two loans. One is by the bank syndicate and it would be on the basis of the bank rate plus a percentage. So far as the loan that is given by the British Government is concerned, it would be at the rate they borrow plus administrative charges.

Shri Kajrolkar : Is there any material difference between the Rourkela agreement and the Durgapur agreement? If so, what is it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : The Rourkela agreement is a totally different type of agreement and therefore, it must differ in all material aspects from this.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha : May I know whether Government have come to any conclusion regarding the supply of tools and machinery by the British interests? If so, what will be

the percentage of that and what will be the percentage that will be supplied by inviting global tenders?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The arrangement, if we finally conclude the agreement, which we hope we would, is a package deal with all machinery and all the necessary things that are imported supplied by this consortium.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether any programme for the construction of buildings and procurement of materials etc. has been drawn up and when this plant is going into production?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, it has been drawn up and I think preparations are under way.

COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE DEATH OF SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

*670. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 13 on the 16th February, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the composition of the Committee has been finalised;

(b) if so, the names of the Members; and

(c) when the Committee is expected to proceed on its mission?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c) Yes. The Committee is expected to start work about the beginning of April. Its members are:

1. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways.

2. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose, and

3. Shri S. N. Maitra, I. C. S., Chief Commissioner, Andamans.

Shri Kamath: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a suggestion made in the Bengal Press that Dr. Radha Binod Pal, former member of the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo, should have been invited

or should be invited by Government to serve on this Committee?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes. We saw that Dr. Radha Binod Pal is a very eminent person. But in this particular instance, it was thought that perhaps it would not be suitable for him to go there for this purpose. Apart from this, I believe that he is likely to be otherwise engaged.

Shri Kamath: Is this three-man Committee launching upon this inquiry with the conviction—or even the presumption—that Netaji is dead? Or has it got an open mind on this aspect of the matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Those people who have studied this matter are convinced of the fact of the death of Netaji. But that does not mean that mind cannot be opened afresh, if necessary.

Shri Kamath: Will the Committee examine various persons who have made statements on this subject in recent weeks or even earlier in regard to the whereabouts or the existence of Netaji, in various parts of Asia? Will the Committee also inquire into the identity of the person whose photograph was published in the Bengal Press some weeks ago, a Mongolian delegate to Peking in 1952? The Prime Minister also admitted some resemblance to Netaji. And in view of the diplomatic relations with Mongolia recently established.

Mr. Speaker: How many questions?

Shri Kamath: All right.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Committee will work in close conjunction with representatives of the Japanese Government, and no doubt will draw up its own methods of procedure. I must say that the occasional statements that occur in newspapers are about as fantastic and as highly imaginative as any person can make them, and the story about some picture from Outer Mongolia resembling Netaji—it is not for me to say no to anything—is, I think, like talking about the moon being made of green cheese.