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LOK SABHA DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 21st February, 1956

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

*108. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) whether global tenders in respect of the Rourkela Steel Plant have been issued;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) what percentage of the total equipment that is required to be procured on the basis of global tenders is covered by these tenders?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir, for some sections of the Steel Works.

(b) All the relative tender papers were available for sale by the first and second week of October, 1955.

(c) These tenders cover about 25% of the value of the total equipment to be procured.

Shri Bansal: May I know if the firm of Krupp and Demag has also tendered?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: These tenders are now being scrutinised and I am not in a position to divulge at this stage as to who are all the people that have tendered.

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Shri Bansal: Is he aware of the rumour that is in the country that perhaps the Krupp and Demag have not tendered?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the same question in another form. He wanted a positive answer; now he asks whether he is in a position to deny.

Shri Bansal: May I know if any Indian firm has tendered?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, I am not going to allow this question. They are all sealed tenders, I think. Hon. Member knows too well about these, having regard to his own position in the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Shri Bansal: May I know whether these tenders were issued at the time when they were scheduled in the original agreement or there has been some delay? If there has been some delay, what is it due to?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot say with any degree of certainty whether the agreement prescribed the dates for the issue of tenders; I am afraid I will have to look it up. So far as delay is concerned; all avoidable delay will be eliminated.

Dr. Rama Rao: There is now a Press report that there are efforts at coordinating British, Russian and German experts in the steel plants. If the German tender has not yet been accepted, may I know how the German experts come into the picture and what are the plans for this co-ordination?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not responsible for Press reports.

Shri Bansal: On account of the fact that these tenders have been issued quite late, may I know whether

there will be some delay in the completion of the project and if so when is it hoped that steel will begin to be produced?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question of delays is purely relative. But we hope that production will start by the end of 1958.

TRAINING FACILITIES

***110. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the outline of the scheme providing training facilities for technicians approved by the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.; and

(b) the progress made in regard to the implementation of that scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 40].

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I enquire what is the maximum number of persons that can be taken up for training in the factory under the scheme?

Shri Satish Chandra: The number of trainees is one hundred graduate apprentices and ninety trade apprentices.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I enquire if Government is going to give any priority to such of those trained persons who have not yet been absorbed in the service of the factory?

Shri Satish Chandra: Sindri tries to absorb generally all those for whom there are vacancies but there is no guarantee of employment.

EXHIBITIONS

***111. Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to convert the Indian Industries Fair area into a permanent exhibition; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there is also a proposal to exhibit products of particular branches of the Indian Industry for stipulated periods and thus to continue the exhibition round the year?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the matter is under consideration.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know what the Government is doing with the present site and the present structures?

Shri Karmarkar: Three of the structures are proposed to be there; they are of a permanent nature. But as I said the matter is under discussion between our Ministry and the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know if the Government has in view any exhibition by the Government or by any private agency to be held there in the near future and if it is so when do we expect that the exhibition to come into being?

Shri Karmarkar: The idea is to have a sort of a permanent exhibition. But the matter, as I said, is under consideration—whether there should be an exhibition by the private parties or whether it should be only Government exhibition, etc. are all matters for consideration.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know if the terms offered by the foreign countries who had their stalls here have been accepted by the Government and if so, what are the major terms on which Government is going to take over the permanent buildings?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I am sorry, I cannot precisely understand the import of the hon. lady Member's question. If she can perhaps give some more details, I will endeavour to answer it.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I explain?