

**Construction of Dry Dock at
Visakhapatnam**

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*256. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri E. C. Majhi:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to construct a big Dry Dock at Visakhapatnam has been postponed,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether the postponement of the construction has resulted in any financial loss, and

(d) if so, the amount thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, for the present

(b) Non-availability of foreign exchange, as the project was not included in the 'Core' of the Plan

(c) No

(d) Does not arise

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether, just before postponing this dry dock, it is a fact that the shipyard entered into an agreement with certain foreign firms to prepare its design and if so whether any fees were paid to the company?

Shri Raj Bahadur. The Shipyard had asked their consultants Messrs Rendel Palmer and Tritton to draw up a detailed project which they had done. They also thereupon approved the detailed project and authorised them to go ahead with the drawing up of detailed designs, specifications and drawings which also was done

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know how long this construction would remain postponed?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are again considering the question whether we

should take it up. For that we have got to know whether we shall get the required foreign exchange or not. So long as the foreign exchange position does not ease, we shall have to put it off.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know whether any amount has been spent so far?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes. A sum of Rs 6,32,640 has been spent.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister just now said that for the present it is deferred. May I know if it is deferred during the Second Plan period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was included in the Second Plan. As a matter of fact, an administrative decision was taken as far back as 1954, and a sum of Rs 1 lakh was spent in the First Five Year Plan. In the Second Plan necessary financial allocation was provided. But, because there was a substantial foreign exchange content in the estimated expenditure, it had to be put off for the present.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What is the foreign exchange content for this dry dock?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is Rs 41 lakhs a little over that.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it true that this postponement was made in 1957? The scheme was taken up in 1954. May I know whether this scheme will be expedited so that it may be completed during the Second Plan period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have just now said that because of the tight foreign exchange position, the scheme had to be postponed for the present. If the foreign exchange position eases, we shall again try to take it up.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of the inadequate ship repairing facilities and dry dock in the east coast, what steps will the Government take to get this dry dock scheme imple-

mented in the Second Plan period itself?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was also because of the fact that on the east we do not have adequate ship repairing facilities and dry dock facilities that we included this project in the Second Plan. In the circumstances we shall have to fall back upon Calcutta and other places for dry docking. We shall again take up the matter as soon as the foreign exchange position appears to be easing.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it is a fact that this scheme was in the mind of the Government since 1946 and some preliminary investigations were also carried on? May I know why it takes so much time to proceed with the scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I said we accepted it and we also went forward and had detailed project, detailed drawings, etc. We had to put it off because of the foreign exchange position most reluctantly.

Sewage Disposal in Bangalore

*257. **Shri N. Keshava:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mysore Government have sought for the help of Experts from the Centre or the World Health Organisation for effectively tackling the problem of sewage disposal of Bangalore city, and

(b) what help, if any, do the Centre propose to render to the Bangalore Corporation in this matter?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Keshava: May I know if there was any difference of opinion regarding the disposal of sewage and the Mysore Government sought for any financial aid also in the matter?

Shri Karmarkar: There is always consultation going on and whenever they put up a scheme, we give them

advice. The matter is under mutual consultation.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the Corporation of Bangalore has submitted a scheme to the Centre for utilising nitrogenous sewage for manurial purposes?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice. Normally these large sewage schemes have such a scheme.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether the disposal of sewage in the Bangalore Corporation is not presenting a particularly difficult problem in view of there being more than one out-fall? They say that there are going to be three out-falls and only one is now being in use. Therefore, does the hon. Minister not think it necessary to go to their aid with technical advice and finance?

Shri Karmarkar: What they have really asked is not technical advice. They have sufficient technical talent and we have sufficient technical talent. What they want is money. With regard to that, the amount that the Planning Commission has allocated is Rs. 1 crore for five years. For this year they have allocated Rs. 5 lakhs which is to be paid to the Corporation of Bangalore. The Corporation and the Government of Mysore have put up proposals for a larger aid. We are considering that sympathetically. So far as our Ministry is concerned, we shall be very happy to support their proposal. It all depends on the financial allocation ultimately made by the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission.

Shri Dasappa: He did not give the estimate of the scheme itself. He says that he has provided for Rs. 5 lakhs. What is the estimate of the scheme?

Shri Karmarkar: I think the latest estimate that has come to us with regard to the water supply scheme, subject to correction, is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2.5 crores.