

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 18th December, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Neivell Lignite Mine

*1275. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the total amount paid so far to Messrs. Powell Duffryn Technical Services Limited for preparing the project report and drawing up the specifications of conventional and specialised equipment required in the initial stage of lignite mining at Neiveli?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): A fee of £12,500 (Twelve thousand five hundred pounds) has been paid to Messrs. Powell Duffryn Technical Services Limited, for drawing up the specifications of conventional and specialised equipment required for the initial development of the lignite mine at Neiveli. A further fee of £20,000 (Twenty thousand pounds) has been sanctioned for the project report submitted by them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if Messrs. Powell Duffryn will continue to act as consultants to the private company which we have formed recently for the development of lignite in Neiveli?

Shri Satish Chandra: The matter is under consideration.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know the estimated cost of the various equipment imported by this Company?

Shri Satish Chandra: Nothing has been imported from Powell Duffryn Technical Services, Ltd. They are merely the technical consultants. Orders have been placed for machinery worth about Rs. 5½ crores after calling global tenders.

Lower Income Group Housing Scheme

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*1276. { **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**
Shri Velayudhan:
Dr. Satyawadi:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) how many States took advantage of housing loan under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme upto end of November, 1956; and

(b) what is the amount disbursed as loans against the allotment for 1956-57?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) All States took advantage of the Low Income Group Housing Scheme.

(b) Against an allotment of Rs. 673.84 lakhs, Rs. 195.26 lakhs have been disbursed till the end of November, 1956.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: As a result of the disbursement of this loan, may I know how far there has been an improvement in the housing facilities in the lower income group? Is there any assessment of that?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): About 40,000 houses are expected to be constructed. No detailed information about the progress with regard to each house is available, because all these houses are being constructed by private individuals.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether there are any States who, after spending their allotment, have asked for more loans to construct such houses?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This is correct.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know how many houses are being allotted for the Kerala State and whether it is a fact that some of the houses built are still kept vacant there?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the hon. Member is confusing this with the Industrial Housing Scheme. So far as the Low Income Group Housing Scheme is concerned, I cannot imagine how a house