

Export of Iron Ore

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 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shri Chattar Singh:
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Maheswar Naik:
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
 Shri Mohan Swarup:
 Shri Umanath:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shri D. D. Puri:
 Shri H. C. Soy:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new proposal to start certain projects to step up the export of Indian iron ore and to cut down its costs of production has been drawn up; and

(b) if so, the main features of this new scheme and the Planning Commission's reaction to the same?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A comprehensive note on the proposals approved by the Government is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1894/63]. The Planning Commission have also agreed with the proposals which are of a very substantial nature for the export of Iron Ore.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : श्रीमन्, सब से पहले मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेरा प्रश्न हिन्दी में है, इस लिए हिन्दी में मुझे जवाब दिया जाये ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) एक पूरा नोट सदन की मेज पर रखा गया है जिस को सरकार ने पास कर दिया है और जिस पर प्लानिंग कमिशन की भी मुहर लगी हुई है । इसके द्वारा हम हिन्दुस्तान की आयरन ओर के एक्सपोर्ट को बहुत अधिक बढ़ा रहे हैं ।

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श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि अब तक निर्यात कितना किया जा रहा है और अब कितना बढ़ाने की योजना है ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह: अब तक कोई एक करोड़ दस लाख टन एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं । अब उसे तीन करोड़ टन अगले साल में करने का इरादा है ।

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : जो उत्पादन व्यय कम करने की बात आप सोच रहे हैं, वह कितना कम किया जायेगा ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह: उत्पादन कम करने का सवाल नहीं है ।

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : मैं उत्पादन व्यय कम करने के बारे में पूछ रहा हूँ ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : उत्पादन का जो खर्च है उसको घटाने के लिये ३०६ करोड़ रूपये का इनवैस्टमेंट लगाया जा रहा है । उस में से ६४ करोड़ फारेन एक्सचेंज में होगा । इसके द्वारा माइनिंग को राशनलाइज किया जायेगा, पोर्ट फैसिलिटीज को बढ़ाया जायेगा, रेल फैसिलिटीज को बढ़ाया जायेगा । इस तरह से हम समझते हैं कि पन्द्रह से बीस परसेंट दाम घटेंगे ।

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I would like to know whether it is proposed to export the whole of this quantity of 30 million tons through the State Trading Corporation or whether it is proposed that some private exporters should also come in, and whether this will be a feasible proposition in view of the fact that other countries are rapidly developing their own iron ore mines.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The iron ore trade is nationalised already. There is a new corporation called the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation. That alone will export it.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether as a result of this pro-

posal our increased production would be sent to the traditional markets or would it be possible for the Government to find some new markets for the same?

Shri Manubhai Shah: One is our Japanese market which, according to our estimates, will take about 50 per cent of it. We are also trying to sell more to the East European countries—Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Poland. We are also energising ourselves to sell it to the European Common Market, namely, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I asked whether this export target would be feasible in view of the fact that many of these countries mentioned by the Minister are rapidly developing their own iron ore mines.

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member goes through the statement which I have tried to put in, the world trade of iron ore along with the steel expansion is estimated to rise, on a very very moderate basis, to 630 million tons from the present 360 million tons and the world trade of iron ore alone is expected to rise from 100 million tons to 300 million tons. In that 200 million tons expansion, for India to secure a world market for 15 to 20 million tons should not be difficult.

श्री श्री प्र० शर्मा : उत्पादन बढ़ाने की बात की जा रही है और उसकी योजना बनाई जा रही है। माल एक जगह से दूसरी जगह भेजा जा सके, उसके लिये रेलवे साइडिंग इत्यादि की जो व्यवस्था है क्या उसकी तरफ भी आपका ध्यान गया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके लिये गवर्नमेंट क्या कर रही है ताकि उत्पादन होने के पहले ही रेलवे साइडिंग उपलब्ध हो जायें।

श्री मनुभाई शाह: सब इस में दिया हुआ है। अस्सी करोड़ रुपये तो रेलों पर खर्च किये जायेंगे जिससे दुनाई हो सके।

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know what is the extent of India's production which is going abroad in the international trade and the prospects of the increased production taking part in the same?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The present ratio is about ten per cent, and it is proposed to raise it to 15 to 20 per cent.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: At page 3 of the statement it has been mentioned that:

"The second group would cover the ports newly considered in this connection."

May I know how much more money would be invested in covering the ports coming in the plan for the second group?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I think that the second group plan might require about Rs. 35 to 40 crores.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: In the scheme which the hon. Minister has proposed in order to push up the exports, may I know whether so far as the cost of production part is concerned, he proposes to start a corporation like the National Small-scale Industries Corporation or the Small-Scale Industries Service Corporation so as to supply the technical know-how and other financial assistance to the small mine-owners with a view to bringing down the cost of production?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is a programme for massive production of iron ore. So, we should not compare it with the small-scale industries or with the efforts of the Small Industries Corporation or the Small Industries Service Corporation, though they are most important. This programme for the production of iron ore would require the highest technique of a very massive nature for the purpose of a huge production. So, the two things are not comparable. Here, we shall try to bring the latest machinery, both for handling and

transport and also for port discharge etc. Also, we have to see that the draught of the sea which is today 18 to 20 feet goes up to 46 feet. We want also bulk carriers which will carry 60,000 tons. I have tried to indicate all that in this statement. It is a master plan for iron ore development for export.

Shri Shashi Ranjan: In paragraph 4 of the statement it has been mentioned:

"It would thus appear that taking 5 million tons as the production level for export by 1963-64, and 2 million tons and 4 million tons respectively from Kiriburu and Bailadilla . . .".

Again, in the brackets, it has been mentioned:

" . . .(or 6 million tons from Bailadilla) . . .".

May I know the reason for neglecting the Kiriburu area?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is not neglected. Because Kiriburu is nearer the Hindustan Steel factories, which are our national steel plants, we are thinking that perhaps it might be more economical for us to supply the iron ore required by the steel mills from Kiriburu and to export 6 million tons from Bailadilla to Japan. So, the figure will remain the same.

Shri Joachim Alva: There is a proposal to import iron ore from the USSR. May I know whether we are going to pay more price for the iron ore that we import from the USSR and get more for our exports?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I think the hon. Member has misunderstood me. The Soviet Union is one of the big exporters of iron ore. We cannot carry coal to New Castle. We are selling it to Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and other countries.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement made by the leader of the Japanese Parliamen-

tary Delegation to this country that his country is prepared to import more iron ore from this country, and if so, whether after that statement, there has been any increase in the export of iron ore from this country to Japan?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That statement was made only recently. But even before the leader of that delegation made that statement, our efforts were continuing. I myself propose to go to Japan in January or February, for a very highpowered talk on further sales of iron ore to that country.

S.T.C. Offices in Foreign Countries

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 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Vishram Prasad:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Dr. L. M. Singhvi:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open branch offices of State Trading Corporation in some foreign countries where volume of trade has increased;

(b) if so, the places where such offices are likely to be opened; and

(c) when they are likely to be opened?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). The State Trading Corporation has already opened an office in Western Europe and a special officer has been attached to our Embassy in Prague to represent the State Trading Corporation of India. It is proposed to appoint a similar officer in our Embassy at Moscow. It is also proposed to open an office of the State Trading Corporation in Japan. It is hoped to do this in early 1964.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether as a result of expanding the organisation of the STC in