

by the small scale sector, Government have recently announced a Liberalised Import Policy. The Department of Defence Supply has organised exhibitions of parts, components etc. required by the Defence, which could be taken up in the small scale sector. Small industrialists interested in a particular item are put in touch with the Government Purchasing Departments for direct negotiations regarding terms of supply etc. Small industrialists obtaining these contracts are being provided other facilities by the Small Industries Service Institutes and the National Small Industries Corporation in executing these contracts. The Credit Guarantee Scheme No. 2 implemented by the N.S.I.C. and the State Bank of India is also extended to these contracts.

(b) and (c). Copy of a presentation from a Firm addressed to the Director General of Supplies and Disposals has been received in the Ministry of Industry very recently and this is being examined in consultation with the D.G.S. & D.

Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

2499. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 812 on the 2nd September, 1966 and state:

(a) the targets fixed for production in monetary terms and actual achievements of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Plant at Ranchi during 1965-66 and 1966-67;

(b) why the land whose capacity to bear the foundry forge plant's pressure was inadequate according to the opinion of several experts, was chosen as the construction site; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this decision which involved the Public Exchequer due to the delay and expenditure on pile foundations?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) The targets fixed for production in monetary terms and actual achievement of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ranchi for the years 1965-66 and 1966-67 are as follows:—

Name of Project	1965-66		1966-67	
	Target of production	Actual production	Target of production	Actual production. Apr.—Sept. 1966
<i>Rupees in lakhs</i>				
Heavy Machine Building Plant	344	293	748	172.46
Foundry Forge Plant	83.54	67.98	221.15	25.91
Heavy Machine Tool Plant	2		21.50	..

(b) and (c). The site chosen first was later, on the advice of the experts, found to be inadequate. During the course of the detailed drilling of holes in the area, it was noticed that there was a wide variation in the nature of the soil from place to place in close proximity with each other. The

broad indications of soil results revealed on the basis of test pits taken at long intervals and which is all that can be reasonably done in the earlier stages of planning and selection of sites, sometimes undergo changes during actual implementation. Against this background no one is to be held

responsible for any alteration in techniques which have occurred during actual implementation.

Allotment of Scooters to Emergency Commissioned Officers

2500. Shri Lakshmu Bhawani: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state whether the Emergency Commissioned Officers who had applied for the Scooters under Officers' quota will be eligible for scooters after they are released from the Emergency Services and are employed in their original posts or elsewhere?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): Such of the Emergency Commissioned Officers, who revert to Civilian appointments under the Central Government without any break in service would be considered for allotment of scooters from the Central Government quota on the basis of their previous applications, if they continue to satisfy all the conditions of eligibility for the allotment of scooters.

Aluminium Factory in Ratnagiri

**2507. Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri Madhu Limaye:**

Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an aluminium factory is being set up in Ratnagiri District, in Maharashtra and is being located at Ratnagiri and not at Jaigadh;

(b) whether the Germans or any other experts recommended Jaigadh site for location of the factory in their technical report;

(c) whether it is a fact that this recommendation was set aside for non-technical reasons and Ratnagiri was chosen instead; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) An aluminium smelter is being set up in Maharashtra State and the foreign technical con-

sultants have suggested location of the plants at Ratnagiri. The question of final location of the plants is still under consideration of the Government.

(b) When the project was originally envisaged in the private sector, Jaygad was proposed for location of the plants.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. In 1964, following the decision to take up implementation of the Koyna Aluminium Project in the public sector, the question of economics of location was considered by a Study Group consisting of officers from the Central Govt. and the Maharashtra Govt. The Study Group ruled out Jaygad site for the Koyna Aluminium Project on technical grounds viz. lack of necessary infra structure, likely higher investment costs particularly for movement of raw material and supply of electric power and limited water potential which might inhibit further expansion of the proposed new aluminium smelter. The foreign technical consultants are also in agreement with the views of the Study Group on Jaygad site and have indicated their preference for Ratnagiri.

Staff Working at Bhilakhedi

2502. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new yard and diesel shed at Bhilakhedi are situated at a distance of over 6 Km. from Itarsi Station;

(b) whether it is a fact that neither transport arrangements nor educational, medical and marketing facilities have been provided for the staff working at Bhilakhedi; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to redress those genuine grievances of the staff?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):

(a) Yes.