

LOK SABHA

Friday, the 11th May, 1962/Vaisa-Kha 21, 1884 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Bhanu Prakash Singh (Rajgarh).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Second Locomotive Factory

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*646. { Shri Subodh Hansda;
 { Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a second locomotive factory in our country;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been finalised; and

(c) if so, whether any site has been selected and where is that site?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):

(a) A factory for the manufacture of Diesel Locomotives is being set up.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Varanasi in U.P.

Shri Subodh Hansda: In view of the fact that the Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory has exceeded its target of production, may I know whether the Chittaranjan factory will be enlarged for further development?

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Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir; we have plans for manufacturing electric locomotives at Chittaranjan.

Shri Subodh Hansda: The hon. Minister has just now stated that the site for the proposed locomotive factory has been finalised in Varanasi. What is the proposed target for production in this locomotive factory?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: In the initial stages the target of output is 150 locomotives a year. Later on we hope to expand to 250.

Shri Mohsin: May I know whether the Government have examined the fact that at the Hubli Railway Workshop in Mysore State locomotives could be produced at a lower cost because the labour there is very cheap?

Shri Raghunath Singh: It is not cheaper than at Varanasi.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have no intention of producing locomotives at the Hubli workshop.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What varieties of locomotives are proposed to be manufactured in this factory?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: High power diesel locomotives mainly for hauling goods traffic.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In view of even these 250 locomotives falling too short of our demand why do the Government not expand the factory so as to meet all our requirements, if need be even export requirements?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have got to start at some stage. If it is necessary to expand it further, we shall do so