

(b) the nature of the work proposed to be completed during the Third Plan period; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent this year?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The State Government of Kerala have completed construction of a section of the canal to a length of 7400 feet at a cost of about Rs. 6.30 lakhs.

(b) The information is being obtained from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is available.

(c) Rs. 2.50 lakhs.

Buhler Plants

1091. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have purchased some Buhler plants for mechanized unloading, filling and sewing up sacks;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) whether the said plants are lying idle; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only one.

(c) The Plant is lying idle temporarily.

(d) Due to labour opposition at Bombay the plant was shifted to Kandla in 1960 and started functioning there in 1961. Later on owing to wear and tear some parts needed replacement and the plant stopped working. These parts have since been imported and the plant is presently being put in shape by an engineers. It is expected that the plant will be put into operation shortly.

1171 (Ai) LSD—5.

12.15 hrs.

RE. STATEMENT ON DEFENCE MINISTER'S VISITS TO THE USA AND THE USSR

Mr. Speaker:: The hon. Defence Minister had laid a statement on the Table of the House. I shall allow a few questions on that now.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): From the statement of the hon. Defence Minister, it is evident that while originally the agreement for MIG's was gone through, there were certain fields uncovered. May I know whether those fields have been covered by the present agreement? May I also know whether it is a fact that because of our attachment for MIG's the USA is not very much anxious to go into a deal with us for HF-24 supersonic jets?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): The agreement which was formerly entered into was based on certain presumptions which in experience were found to be rather incomplete. That was why it was found that it was necessary to enter into more detailed agreements and supplementary agreements about the supply of jigs and tools and other things. With these supplementary agreements, we think that we should be able to get our programmes through in the coming minimum two or three years; that is my present estimate of the time. This is the answer that I can give now.

Shri Hem Barua: What about the second part of my question?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: What is the second part?

Shri Hem Barua: I wanted to know whether because of our attachments for MIG's, the USA was not very much interested in going into a deal with us, so far as HF-24 supersonic jets were concerned?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hosangabad): About the development of HF-24.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I do not think that the USA's desire to go into the supersonic deal has anything to do with the MIG's. But certainly they did mention one point which was a very important one, namely, that when we were thinking of introducing the production of two supersonic planes, namely the HF-24 and the MIG's, it would be feasible from the economic point of view to introduce another supersonic. The answer to that point, that we gave in America was that the third supersonic that we wanted to acquire from the USA was not for production in our country but was intended to be introduced as serving squadrons for our immediate purposes. Even though we go ahead with the programme of production, it will take some years to reach that production level. What do we do in the meanwhile? So, it was really speaking an acquisition meant for our immediate purposes. That was the answer that we gave in America.

Shri Hem Barua: What was their reaction?

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh (Parbhani): While congratulating the hon. Defence Minister on his remarkable success and for having returned to the homeland without controversies and for having produced a faithful record of his visit, I would still like to know whether the gap of foreign exchange which he has mentioned is thrice is proposed to be filled from the untied loans from the AID consortium?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: This has nothing to do with the AID consortium. I think that we shall have to fill up this gap with these agreements that we are having with these countries.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: I want to know whether it will be an untied loan.

Mr. Speaker: He has said that it has nothing to do with the AID consortium.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (फर्रुखाबाद): इस संदर्भ में कि रूस और अमरीका दोनों रक्षा में मदद देने से आनाकानी करते हैं और मिग का सौदा अगस्त 62 में हो जाने के बाद भी अभी तक उस पर कार्यवाही नहीं हुई या अमरीका ने खुद हवा शिक्षा के मौके पर आवाज से तेज हवाई हाज रखने की बात कही, अब वह आनाकानी कर रहा है तो क्या माननीय चह्वाण ने अनुभव किया है कि रूस और अमरीका एक दूसरे की मदद से भड़क जाते हैं और अगर यह बात है तो इस के लिए उन्होंने क्या उपाय निकाला है ?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: My own experience is this; it may be that they have their own reservations; I cannot say that. But at least in both the countries that I visited I found that they did not want to compete with each other; they had made that amply clear. The Russians made an offer of what they could give to us, but we have to choose and we must make arrangements in regard to the payment for those things according to the conditions that they lay down.

About the MIG's, the point was that the agreement that we had ourselves reached earlier was found to be rather incomplete in certain respects. I made that point clear in my first answer to Shri Hem Barua's question. That was based on a certain presumption, that possibly we would be able ourselves to manufacture the jigs and tools in our country, which we later on found that we would not be able to do.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : सरकार को पता न हो, लेकिन रूसियों को तो पता रहा होगा न ?

श्री यशवन्तराव चह्वाण : रूसियों को पता होगा, लेकिन वे तो हम पर भरोसा करेंगे कि हम अपने देश में बनाने के लिए तैयार हैं या नहीं। वे हमें कम्पैल तो नहीं करेंगे।

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): The hon. Minister in his statement says in paragraph 9 that in the matter of replacing the over-age ships in our fleet, it was agreed by the delegation that our requirements in this field should first be discussed with the British Government. In paragraph 18 of the same statement, it is stated that in regard to naval craft and submarines, the USSR showed them these instruments of war and they had also said that they were in a position to supply them. I want to ask whether the US Government showed any anxiety either to replace our vessels or to lend us naval craft, they being the first naval power in the world?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I do not think the US was interested in supplying any naval ships because they have not got those types of vessels which we require. Normally, the pattern and vessels of our Navy are connected with the Royal Navy, the British Navy. Really speaking, that is why they expected us to find out from Britain what we could get.

On the whole, our requirements in connection with the Navy are standing on a low priority, looking to the present threat—as far as the present threat is concerned.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad (Bhagalpur): Before signing the agreement at Moscow for acquiring supersonics for our immediate use, the MIGs, did the Defence Minister explore the possibility, during his visit to the States, of acquiring such aircraft? If so, what was their reply of the US Government at that time when the MIGs were not acquired for our immediate use? What was the reason they gave for not accepting our request?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: It was not a question of not accepting. Even now they have not rejected it. As far as I understand, our requirement of supersonics, the F 104 G, is still open. The MIGs acquired from Soviet Russia are not supposed to be as substitutes for the supersonics we have asked for from the US. But this ques-

tion was under discussion, and as I have said, it was to be considered further according to our own requirements. They agreed they would send some experts to see whether they could help us in the development of the HF 24 and even help us in producing more and more HF 24 of Mach I type.

Shri Alvares (Panjim): All defence equipment is meant to be utilised by manpower. And during the Chinese invasion, the President, who is the Supreme Commander-in-Chief estimated that our minimum requirement of personnel would be 20 lakhs. May I know why the Defence Minister has based his equipment requirements on the basis of 8.25 lakh men?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I do not think the President's estimate, when he mentioned 2 million, was based on technical advice as such. Possibly it was just his estimate.

Shri Alvares: He is the Supreme Commander-in-Chief and he has said 2 million.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): How is it open to the Minister who is working under the President to say that he does not think that the President has made that remark without being advised by the defence forces and their Chiefs? Is it proper? Are we to understand that the Defence Minister or the Prime Minister has become the Supreme Commander and not the President?

Mr. Speaker: The Supreme Commander remains one who is already there.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): He should withdraw it. He is creating a very bad precedent.

Mr. Speaker: There is nothing to get agitated about. The only thing he said, as I could follow, was that it was not a thing that was said definitely or positively. The figure he mentioned at that time was just an

[Mr. Speaker]

estimate or a casual idea that he gave. It was not arrived at after consultation or other things.

Shri Alvares: But surely between 20 lakhs and 8.25 lakhs, there is an unreasonable variation.

Shri Ranga: Even then, it is wrong on the Minister's part to say so. In that case, people will be free to attach no importance or value to statements made by the President of the Republic especially when he happens to be the Supreme Commander.

Mr. Speaker: Of course, I agree there that it is expected that everything that the President says is on the advice of the Ministers.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: May I say that it was not meant as a comment on what the President said? Really speaking, we had no idea exactly what was in his mind. I am not, really speaking, officially aware of what in fact the President said, but the present number is based on an assessment of the threat that we have, and also what our own economic capabilities can stand.

Shri P. K. Deo: On a point of order. The President does not function on his own. Any statement he makes, he makes on the advice of the Ministers; and when he made that statement that two million people would be required to man our armed forces, he has definitely made that statement on the advice of the former Defence Minister and the Prime Minister. Under the circumstances, the earlier statement of the Defence Minister that the President was not correct, or the assessment he made was vague or without technical knowledge or anything like that would be absolutely unfounded and would be creating a very bad precedent in this House. He has to withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has not said that it was vague or anything of that sort.

Shri P. K. Deo: That is what we understood from what he said.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has said that he was not offering any comment on that. A statement was made some time ago, and now an actual assessment has been made by the Ministry. There is no point of order.

Shri Ranga: He should withdraw. Surely, we cannot pass by this in this manner. The Minister must be good enough to say he did not mean it, and therefore he withdraws it.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of his not meaning what he now says. He has given his own assessment that has been arrived at just now. A statement was made by the President some time ago. Probably, that might have been the idea of the Ministry at that time, but now, what conclusions they have arrived at just now, that must be given.

Shri Ranga: That is what the Speaker has said, not the Minister. The Speaker has come to the rescue of the House, but the Minister seems to have. *(Interruptions).*

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Shri Ranga has tried to give a wrong twist to the good statement of the Defence Minister. He should withdraw the statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Nobody need withdraw anything.

Shri Krishnapal Singh (Jalesar): May I know from the hon. Defence Minister what advantage he sees in approaching different Governments for help so far as our weapons are concerned? After all, the armed forces are intended to fight if they get involved. The problem of maintenance. . .

Mr. Speaker: Now he is arguing it. He can only put a question for information. He is arguing why we should go to the different Governments, then maintenance also would be required, there would be difficulties etc. We have to go wherever we can get what we want.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that after these agreements are reached, we shall not deviate from our goal of self-sufficiency in the matter of defence, and our production will not be reduced because of these agreements.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: It will not, certainly. I do not know how it follows.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: That is all. I cannot allow any more. I have allowed enough questions.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I did not coin this question. May I submit that there was an item of news or something in the *Statesman* and in the *National Herald* also that the Finance Minister wrote a letter to the Prime Minister that defence production had reached a peak, even the reserve had been completed, and so there is every apprehension of retrenchment, that a surplus will be declared. My question is whether as a result of these agreements which are likely to be reached—I welcome these agreements—there will be no question of reduction in our production and attainment of self-sufficiency. That is what I wanted to know.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I cannot see where I come into the picture.

Mr. Speaker: The only thing he wants is whether in view of those developments, or our entering into those agreements. . .

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It came out in the newspapers that the Finance Minister wrote a letter to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Am I not allowed to speak?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He asks how he comes into the picture.

Mr. Speaker: He wants an answer or Mr. Krishnamachari to come into

the picture? He wants an assurance that our production would not be decreased or slowed down.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Yes, Sir. Production will not be decreased certainly. Because it depends upon our own requirements and our stockpile also. Suppose we have reached sufficient stockpile, possibly we will have to plan production accordingly.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: If I heard rightly earlier you said that you would call only those Members who had given prior notice of these questions.

Mr. Speaker: No. This was voluntarily made. Therefore I did not look into the notices.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We have not given previous notice. (*Interruptions.*)

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I say something, Sir? Mr. Speaker, may I say something, Sir?

12.30 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

CONTAMINATION OF WATER-SUPPLY IN DELHI

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of adjournment motions, which I think I should mention here, one from Shri S. M. Banerjee and Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath and on the same subject there is a call attention notice also from Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath regarding contamination and pollution of water in Delhi resulting in outbreak of jaundice and gastro enteritis.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Yellow peril as in 1955.

Shri Daji (Indore): Today we have been asked to boil our bathing water.