

Member to try to link the two things together. The project has been included in the Fifth Plan.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY

Where? Your statement does not show it. There are only two fertiliser plants, one at Talcher and another at Paradeep.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA

If the hon Member will bear with me, he will get all the information. I am going to give all the information. I have already given the information in the statement about the two projects that the hon Member mentioned. About the third project, namely the Paradeep Fertiliser Plant, about which Shri Panigrahi asked, I have said that that has been provided for in the lump sum provision for the fertiliser plants that has been made in the Fifth Plan, and the Paradeep Fertiliser Plant has been included in that, and we have taken steps to establish that. Therefore, there is no question of laying the foundation and not taking up these things. As I said, these are going on in the general way of development of our country and establishment of the vital sector projects. They have nothing to do with by-elections or general elections which may be held here and there, and we do not know whether and when these will be held when these projects are conceived.

Shifting of Office of Hindustan Paper Corporation from New Delhi to Calcutta

*128 **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to shift the office of Hindustan Paper Corporation from New Delhi to Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons and the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement

The Board of Directors of the Hindustan Paper Corporation, after due consideration of merits and demerits of alternative locations of the headquarters of the Corporation in Delhi, Calcutta and elsewhere, has decided that the balance of advantage lies in shifting the headquarters to Calcutta which would enable the Corporation to be in closer touch with its new projects, most of which are expected to come up in the North Eastern region of the country on account of large concentration of forest resources in the area and to maintain close and continuous link with the major machinery manufacturers and engineering industry located in the nearby region.

The initial expenditure involved in shifting of the headquarters is expected to be off-set by hiring cheaper office accommodation in Calcutta and saving on travelling expenses of the officers due to the journeys between the headquarter office and project sites becoming shorter.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK

The reasons given by the hon Minister for shifting the Hindustan Paper Corporation from Delhi to Calcutta after three years are very cruel, very disappointing and understandable.

MR SPEAKER Better ask your question then.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK

In view of the fact that it had been functioning here for three years, I want to ask whether it is a Government or a gaurnment.

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MR. SPEAKER Ask your question.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

The conditions in Delhi are more favourable. Calcutta would be very costly, and they have not looked to the convenience of the 300 members of the staff. (Interruptions) Why do you intervene? You may take it to Calcutta or somewhere else or Moscow, I do not mind. Let me ask my question.

They have not looked to the convenience or the hardships of the members of the staff or the educational facilities of their children. The school year starts in January there, but in Delhi it starts in June. What will happen to the children of the staff? Housing conditions or better in Delhi. Fans and electricity are not provided in Calcutta, whereas in Delhi these are provided by the house-owners themselves.

Looking to these things I want to ask the hon. Minister whether this Hindustan Paper Corporation is being shifted to Calcutta because of the whims and convenience of a single man, i.e., the Chairman of the Corporation, who has been in the service of Thapars for the last 30 years, and whether it is a fact that he has been drawing Rs. 3,000 remuneration secretly from Thapars whose headquarters are in Calcutta?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make an allegation against a gentleman who is not in the House, without giving proper notice to the Speaker.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: What is the trouble with you?

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a debating hour. I am just waiting for your question.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): It is rather unfair on the part of the hon. Member to lay a charge against a public sector executive which he will not be able to prove. If a decision is taken to shift it from here to anywhere else, it will not be done for the convenience of any one particular individual. When the Hindustan

Paper Corporation came into existence it did not have a factory of its own. The first factory it took over was the one at Mandya which was a sick unit. For the first time in the Fifth Plan, it has taken up new projects for execution, one in Kerala and 3 in the north-eastern region—1 in Nagaland and 2 in Assam. From the point of view of convenience of execution of these schemes in time and to ensure better management, if a decision is necessary it will be taken to see where the office should be shifted. In doing so, certainly the human aspect of the employees' difficulties will be taken into consideration and we shall not allow anybody to suffer.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: May I know whether the projects to be started in Assam have got clearance from the Public Investments Board and whether such projects are going to be started in other parts of the country as well?

SHRI T. A. PAI: These three projects—1 in Nagaland and 2 in Assam—have been included in the Fifth Plan. The clearance by the Public Investments Board depends on the project report being considered by them. Land has been acquired in Assam and we are trying to see that the projects come into existence. That a project has not been cleared by the Public Investments Board does not mean that the project will not come up. It is a question of formality which has to be gone through.

श्री अरविशंकर चन्द्र सिंह : मैं यह जानता चाहता हूँ कि जब कार्यालय एक बड़े शहर में हटाये जाने हैं तो दूसरे बड़े शहर में ही ले जाये जा । हैं । प्रोजेक्ट ग्रामाम अर नागालैंड में लग रहे हैं, अर दूसरी जगह भी लगेगे, तब क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि ऐसे कार्यालय को किसी ऐसी जगह पर ले जायें जहाँ कर्मचारियों को भी अनुविधा न हो और आबादी की भीड़ भी अधिक न बढ़े ?

SHRI T. A. PAI: I entirely agree that the shifting of the office from one big city to another big city by itself does not solve the problem. But the employees' problem of their children's education also has to be taken into consideration when the offices are shifted to smaller places.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: The Board of Directors of the Corporation have taken a decision to shift the office from Delhi to Calcutta. Is it not true that they have taken into consideration the development of the eastern part by establishing the paper industry with the forest resources and other things which are available there? Before the decision was taken, have they given proper thought to the acute accommodation problem in Calcutta so far as the employees who are going there are concerned?

SHRI T. A. PAI: The decision has not yet received the confirmation of the Government. As a matter of fact we have to see what would be the best method of getting the schemes executed, whether it is necessary to shift the registered office or whether the executives that we are going to appoint for each of the projects should not be charged with the entire responsibility of building up the projects. We feel, all these considerations should be taken into account before a final decision is taken.

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY: In view of the fact that almost all the new projects which Government have undertaken in the public sector are coming in the eastern sector of the country, namely, Assam and Nagaland and the Government has also decided about other projects coming up in Tripura and Manipur, in view of the fact that all these projects are coming up in the eastern region, namely, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, and all the forest resources are there, and since the Government has agreed that it should be shifted from Delhi because of the proximity it will have to the resources as well as to the sites of construc-

tion, why have it in Calcutta, not in Assam, particularly when the Assam Government has made a representation to the Government of India that if you shift the office please do so in Assam, not only the sites will be at your disposal but you will be working very near to forest resources that are available there?

I have not understood this preference to Calcutta in place of Delhi. It is only saving a few rupees in the air fare of the officers. It will not give any efficiency to the work. May I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to kindly consider shifting of this office somewhere in Assam?

West FOM. MEMBER: Shillong.

AN HON. MEMBER: I MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY: It may be Shillong. I have no objection. I may point-out deny that there are a lot of vacant houses, not in occupation, and there are good schools and colleges and central university for the children of the employees.

SHRI T. A. PAI: Ultimately, the Central office of the Hindustan Paper Corporation will be concerned only with the planning and overall administration. For each project, whether in Assam or in Tripura or anywhere else, including in Kerala and, perhaps, possibly, in Madhya Pradesh, there would be an administrative office. I suppose, the satisfaction of all the regions would be met that way. It is not necessary that the central office should be located in any one particular area.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The only new projects that I understood the hon. Minister to say have been cleared are two in Assam and one in Nagaland.

An HON. MEMBER: Another in Tripura.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Nothing is mentioned here.

Wherever you may locate your headquarters, that will be judged by its performance later on. But in view of the acute shortage of paper, may I know whether any other projects, particularly, in Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura and North Bengal which is a very backward area are under consideration or are you confining only to two projects in Assam and one in Nagaland?

SHRI T. A. PAI: There could be a project in West Bengal, two small projects in Manipur and a project in Tripura has been ordered for survey by the Planning Commission. There is also a possibility of a big project in Madhya Pradesh, in Bastar, Escher project costs about Rs. 100 crores in way of capital cost. Therefore, the first problem is to see that these projects are tied up and they are brought into existence as quickly as we can. (Interruption) Whatever has been cleared and included in the Fifth Plan has not been kept in cold storage. It is a question of time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: After all, the projects could be of different sizes big, medium and small. Do they all cost Rs 100 crores each? Why not go in for smaller projects also?

SHRI T. A. PAI: A very large number of smaller paper projects have been licensed for re-cycling agricultural waste and all that in different parts of the country. They are likely to be brought into existence with an expectation of 80,000 tonnes of production in the course of a few years.

Industrial Complex near Chhatrapur, Orissa

*129. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1272 on 20th November, 1974 regarding setting up of an Industrial Complex by Indian Rare Earths Limited near Chhatrapur in Orissa and to state:

(a) the steps so far taken by Government for setting up the Industrial Complex near Chhatrapur, Orissa;

(b) whether a consortium of financial institutions has been constituted to undertake the execution of works on the project; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The proposal for setting up an Industrial Complex near Chhatrapur based on beach sand minerals is under the active consideration of Government.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: On an earlier occasion, replying to the question referred to here, the hon. Prime Minister has stated that preliminary steps are being taken by the Company regarding acquisition of land, consultancy arrangements and provision of infrastructure facilities. In this context, may I ask whether at least the acquisition of land and consultancy arrangements have been done and if so how soon the complex is coming up?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The acquisition of land has taken place. We have also engaged the consultants for undertaking this project. The hon. Member will see that we have made some progress in this matter.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: I would like to know what will be the total amount required for this project in all its totality—for investment.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The feasibility report is still under consideration, and regarding the financial aspects, I can say that, in Phase I of the Complex, it is estimated that the cost would be Rs. 32.50 crores, including the working capital of Rs. 2.15 crores. Of course, the foreign