

**Marine Diesel Engine Factory**

\*1288. Shri K. Narayana Rao: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee set up by Government has studied the question of location of the Marine Diesel Engine Factory,

(b) whether it is a fact that Vizag in Andhra Pradesh has also been considered as the probable site for the factory

(c) if so, the recommendations of the Committee in this regard,

(d) whether any location has ultimately been recommended, and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) The decision regarding location of the Marine Diesel Engine Factory was taken by Government after considering the recommendations of a team of Messrs MAN Engineers

(b) Yes Sir

(c) and (d) After taking into consideration various factors and carrying out a relative assessment of different sites the team of Messrs MAN Engineers recommended the site for location of the factory in the following order

- (i) Ranchi
- (ii) Vishakhapatnam
- (iii) Madras
- (iv) Cochin

(e) The Government have decided that the factory should be set up at Ranchi

**Issue of Passports to Shri Biju Patnaik and Shri and Shrimati Biren Mitra**

\*1289. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) the nature and period of the passport issued to Shri Biju Patnaik

and the number of countries he is permitted to visit and the period of his visit;

(b) the steps or guarantee taken by Government to see that Shri Biju Patnaik returns to India to face the legal processes against him when required,

(c) whether it is a fact that Shri and Shrimati Biren Mitra have also been given passport similar to those of Shri and Shrimati Biju Patnaik,

(d) if so, whether Government realise the possibility of these people escaping the legitimate processes of law, and

(e) the steps Government propose to take in such an eventuality?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) Shri Bijoynanda Patnaik holds an ordinary passport valid upto 27th October 1969. The passport is endorsed for travel to Commonwealth Countries USA, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Burma, Thailand, Philippines, Japan, North Africa, all countries in Europe including USSR and Turkey but excluding Portugal

(b) The Passport Act, 1967, does not provide for taking any guarantee from a passport holder for his return to India

It is however, open to a Court of Law, before which any legal proceedings are pending against a person, to issue an order prohibiting the departure of the person concerned from India. No such order has been issued or conveyed to the Government of India

(c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House

(d) and (e) Government has no indication that these 2 persons are trying to flee the country to escape the legitimate processes of law. If they go abroad and refuse to return