

Commission is engaged in a careful appraisal of the progress of the Plan and its foreign exchange aspects. The results of the study will be placed before the House later.

(b) In addition to stress on the speedy implementation of Plan projects and the limiting of imports to absolute essentials, various restrictions have been imposed by Government on foreign travel and education abroad.

State Planning Boards

- *17. { Shri Shree Narayan Das;
Shri Morarka:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Planning Boards have been set up in the States;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) the precise nature of functions assigned to them?

The Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). Orissa has recently set up a State Planning Board. The proposal is under consideration in other States.

(c) The functions of the Orissa Planning Board are:

- preparation of a long-term or 15-year development plan;
- conduct of studies and surveys for collection of economic, social and technical data which are essential for planning;
- implementation of the Third Plan in an integrated manner;
- review of progress;
- revision of the Third Five Year Plan as and when necessary with a view to bring it in line with the long-term plan mentioned at (a) above; and

(f) adequate direction and guidance to Planning at district and block levels by Panchayati Raj institutions.

कच्चे जूट के मूल्य

- *१८ { श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया :
श्री देशरथ बेह :
श्री योगेन्द्र झा :
श्री मुहम्मद ताहिर :
श्री सुरेन्द्रानाथ द्विवेदी :

क्या खाण्ड्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कच्चे जूट की कीमतें स्थिर करने के लिये अब तक क्या योजनायें तैयार की गई हैं ;

(ख) उन योजनाओं को लागू करने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ;

(ग) कीमतों को किस स्तर पर स्थिर रखने का विचार है ; और

(घ) जूट की कीमतों को स्थिर करने का पाकिस्तान से आयात किये जाने वाले जूट के मूल्य पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा और भारतीय जूट उत्पादकों को इसमें क्या लाभ होगा ?

खाण्ड्य तथा उद्योग मंत्रालय में अन्त-राष्ट्रीय व्यापार मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) : (क) और (ख). जूट उद्योग ने एक जूट बफर स्टॉक एसोसिएशन बनाई है जिसने १९६१-६२ की फसल में लगभग ११.२५ लाख मन जूट खरीदी है ।

(ग) इसके बारे में नई फसल को ध्यान में रखते हुए विचार किया जायेगा । इस बीच १९६१-६२ के लिये निश्चित की गई कीमतों में कोई भी परिवर्तन नहीं होगा ।

(घ) इस योजना से आयात की गई जूट की कीमत पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ता ।

धायत की व्यवस्था अभी तक जैसी है उसे आगे भी इस प्रकार नियंत्रित किया जाता रहेगा कि जिससे देश में जूट के मूल्य स्तर पर कोई असर न पड़े। जूट उत्पादक को भी उसके उत्पादन की उचित कीमत मिलती रहेगी।

Radio-Activity in Kerala

- *19. { **Shri Warrior:**
- Shri Vasudevan Nair:**
- Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**
- Shri Bhakt Darshan:**
- Shri P. Kunhan:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reported confirmation of the fact that life in the Chavara (Quilon, Kerala) coastal region is exposed to radio-activity by research of a team of British scientists headed by Prof. Grunberg; and

(b) if so, whether any further study has been ordered by the Atomic Energy Commission of India?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Government have seen the press reports to that effect.

(b) A copy of the press statement made by the Head of the Biology and Medical Group, Atomic Energy Establishment Trombay, commenting on the press reports in question is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 1]. Sample surveys of the monazite mining areas of Kerala have already been carried out by the Trombay Establishment and extended series of measurements is under way to obtain detailed information.

Small Steel Plants

*20. **Shri Prabhat Kar:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Perspective Planning Division of the

Planning Commission in a memorandum on the prospect for stepping up steel production has pointed out that there is "ample scope for a great number of small steel plants in widely-dispersed locations away from coking coals"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes. The statement referred to occurred in an appendix to a note dealing with "Advance action required for the Fourth Plan" in connection with the Development of iron and steel industry. It quoted the views of a metallurgical expert regarding the scope for small iron and steel plants in India. The aim was to draw attention to various problems which would have to be investigated and tentative possibilities to be explored concretely. It was pointed out that such investigations had to be done by specialised institutions and organisations or technical groups constituted for the purpose.

(b) Recently a Steering Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industry, and one of the several sub-committees which have been constituted will also deal with the question of size and scale of steel plants to be set up. Further details must await the results of these studies.

Construction of a Road by Chinese in Ladakh

- *21. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
- Shri Bishanchander Seth:**
- Shri Yashpal Singh:**
- Shri Hem Barua:**
- Shri Nath Par:**
- Shri P. C. Borooah:**
- Shri Kam Sewak Yadav:**
- Shri Tan Singh:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state: