

Singareni Collieries

- *116. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Reghunath Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between the Central Government and the Government of Andhra Pradesh over the control of the affairs of Singareni Collieries Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The future pattern of assistance by the Government of India to the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and the extent of the Centre's interest in the direction of its affairs, as a consequence thereof, are presently under consideration in consultation with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Artificial Rain

- *117. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Mohammad Elias:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments have been and are being conducted on the artificial precipitation of rain from clouds;

(b) if so, the nature and technique of such experiments; and

(c) the degree of success, if any, achieved so far?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hygroscopic (water absorbing) particles are dispersed in clouds from seed generators on the ground or in aircraft. A proportion of the seeds thus dispersed help formation of a few relatively large cloud droplets which

grow rapidly by collision and coalescence with average small cloud droplets and help initiate rain formation more readily than would occur otherwise.

(c) Out of 54 units of seeding trials conducted by the Rain and Cloud Physics Research Unit 32 were positive, 11 negative and 11 inconclusive

Prices of Coal

- *118. { **Shri Jashvant Mehta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri S. B. Das:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal industry have represented to Government to review the issue of price increase for coal in the light of the report of Indian Coalfields Committee of 1946 popularly known as Mahindra Committee; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Steel Factory in Andhra

- *119. { **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:**
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Steel and Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have represented for starting of a medium-sized steel factory in Public Sector in view of availability of large deposits of iron ore; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to start such a factory?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India have set up a Technical Committee to consider the question of setting up a pig iron plant in Andhra Pradesh. The recommendations of the Committee are awaited.

Smuggling of Foreign Exchange

- Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
- Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:
- *120. Shri S. M. Banerjee:
- Shri Rishang Keishing:
- Shri Jashwant Mehta:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in Calcutta on the 10th July, 1962 that foreign exchange totalling about Rs. 14 lakhs has been smuggled out of the country by a gang;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Police seized about 700 files from the Reserve Bank of India in this connection; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that in some cases permits for foreign exchange have been granted to persons who had no passport?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Permits for foreign exchange are granted by the Reserve Bank of India in all cases without reference to the passport. Authorised dealers, however, release foreign exchange only after endorsing the passport specifying the amount of exchange released.

Fertilizer Factory in Madhya Pradesh

*121. **Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2563 on the 5th June, 1962 and state:

(a) whether arrangements for the proposed fertilizer factory in Madhya Pradesh have been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it will be set up in the public or private sector; and

(d) when the execution of the project is likely to commence?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) to (c). It has now been decided to set up this factory in the public sector. Details are being worked out by the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd., who have been entrusted with its execution.

(d) By January, 1963.

Children's Visit to Soviet Union

*122. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of ten children left for Soviet Union to take part in 35-day international rest camp at Artek;

(b) if so, who selected these delegates;

(c) whether children were selected from all over the country; and

(d) if so, what criterion was laid down in selecting these delegates?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali) (a) to (d). The transfer of this question has since been accepted by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Minister of External Affairs will, therefore, answer the question on a subsequent date.

Steel Plant in Madras

- Shri Basumatari:
- Shri Jashvant Mehta:
- Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
- *123. Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:
- Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
- Shri Eswara Reddy:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final report has been received from either Norway or Ger-