

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** उन का सवाल यह है कि टाटा के मुकाबले महंगा होगा या सस्ता होगा ?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** There is no comparison.

**Steel Plant in South**

+

- \*418. { **Shri Morarka:**  
**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri Dharmalingam:**

Will the Minister of **Steel and Heavy Industries** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 232 on the 16th November, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the Consultant appointed by the Technical Committee has submitted the Project Report for setting up a steel plant in the South; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi):** (a) The Government has appointed a firm of Consulting Engineers to prepare the Detailed Project Report for the Neyveli-Salem Iron and Steel Project. The Report has not so far been submitted.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether on the basis of preliminary tests a decision has been taken in principle to set up a steel plant in the South?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** Yes, Sir. The preliminary reports from Norway and East Germany were quite favourable and that is why the committee has decided to appoint consultants to prepare the detailed project report.

**Shri Morarka:** No doubt the consultants have been appointed, but may I know whether in principle it has been decided to set up a steel plant in the South?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** If the economics would be feasible it would be set up.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** May I know what is the term of reference to this committee and whether the consultants have visited various places to locate the plant?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** The agreement has been finalised with the consultants and they would prepare the project report. Naturally they would visit and survey the places required.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** What will be the production in this plant and what will be the cost of this scheme?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** In the initial stages, the production is envisaged to be three lakh to five lakh metric tons. As regards the cost, it would be decided only after receiving the project report.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know whether the lignite found in Neyveli is useful for this steel plant and whether that aspect has also been considered?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** Tests of this lignite have been carried out in Norway, Sweden and East Germany and they are found to be quite suitable.

**Shri Vishram Prasad:** May I know whether this technical committee has submitted a project report for South only or whether it has considered the problem of the North also?

**Shri P. C. Sethi:** They have considered only about the South.

**Export Promotion Scheme for Handicrafts**

\*419. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the Export Promotion Scheme for handicrafts; and

(b) if so, the main features of this revision?

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b)