

का स्तर ऊपर जा रहा है, उस को देखते हुए सरकार कब तक उसके प्राइस स्ट्रक्चर पर पुनर्विचार करने का विचार कर रही है ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: We will take that aspect into consideration. I think in a few days—I will not say months—Government will take a decision about this.

Shri A. P. Sharma: May I know how long the Government will take to consider the report? Is there any time-limit?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: As I said just now, in a few days' time.

Japanese offer for Steel Plant

*397. { ⁺ Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 279 on the 5th March, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the Japanese parties have made their proposal for financial and technical collaboration for setting up a steel plant in the public sector;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached and if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) when the plant is likely to be set up?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) to (d). A Japanese Survey Team is now in India to study the possibility of setting up a small low alloy steel plant in the Neyveli-Salem area in the Madras State, in the Fourth Five Year Plan period. Their proposals are awaited.

No agreement has been concluded in this regard.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this party wanted before,

that the steel plant should be set up in Orissa where there is enough iron ore?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): I do not think anybody suggested Orissa for the steel plant.

श्री भागवत झा झाझाद : क्या सरकार ने इस टीम को सिर्फ कुछ ही स्थानों के बारे में अपनी राय व्यक्त करने की सिफारिश की है या इस टीम को यह भी अधिकार है कि वह कुछ ऐसे भी उपयुक्त स्थानों को देखे, जिनके बारे में चर्चा की जा सकती है ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : जहाँ तक इस टीम का सवाल है, उसने केवल सेलम और नैवेली में ही अपनी इन्स्ट्रेट दिखाया है और वह उन स्थानों का निरीक्षण और चयन करने के लिए गई है ।

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether it is a fact that the Japanese steel manufacturers produce steel at a much cheaper cost and whether, in view of this fact, there is any proposal with the Government to encourage the Japanese steel manufacturers to produce steel in this country?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I do not think they are prepared to undertake any big steel plant as their financial resources are limited. We are considering whether an alloy steel plant could be set up with their assistance.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the Japanese Survey Team has submitted its report?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: They are just now in that area and it may be a matter of ten days when they will come back.

Shri Muthiah: May I know whether the Japanese Survey Team has accepted the feasibility of setting up at least a medium-sized alloy steel plant at Salem.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: They are just now in Salem. They will come back

in a week's time. Perhaps, they will demand a little more time to submit the report.

Shri Warrior: May I know whether the alloy steel plant will be instead of the bigger steel plant at Salem about which the Minister has been promising in this House?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: There is no question of 'instead'. The Government is considering the setting up of an alloy steel plant there.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are the requirements of alloy steel during the Third Five-Year Plan and how far are we able to satisfy those requirements?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: 500,000 is the estimated requirement by the end of the Fourth Plan. We are trying to reach that target.

Shri K. C. Pant: Is it not a fact that our own experts have gone into the matter of setting up an alloy steel plant in Salem already and if so, may I know whether our experts are associated with the Japanese team in investigating this project?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I have answered it in the first question. Our experts have recommended Hospet area as very good; the Salem area as very good; and Goa also is very good. The merits of each site have been placed before the Government. Government wanted to have some more information. The Japanese will perhaps assist us in setting up the plant.

Shri Hem Barua: If we don't look at the Chair, you take us to task. But the hon. Minister is looking back every time.

Mr. Speaker: He should not look back. I was going to point out that, whenever a question is asked from back, then he looks that side.

Export of Coal

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 { **Shri P. R. Chakravarti:**
 { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
 *398. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**

{ **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
 { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
 { **Shri Bagri:**
 { **Shri B. K. Das:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Study Group headed by the Director General, National Council of Applied Economic Research has called for a policy declaration in regard to coal exports;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the Study Group has collected information relating to the coal requirements of the countries in South East Asia, Africa and West Asia; and

(d) whether the Group has recommended reduction in shipping charges and river dues and quality control to make Indian coal competitive in markets abroad?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. A Study Group was appointed by this Ministry on January 18, 1965 with Dr. Lokanathan, Director General, National Council of Applied Economic Research as its Chairman; apart from the representatives of Ministries and other organisations concerned, the Study Group also includes from the industry the then Chairman of Indian Mining Association.

(b) The question of policy declaration is part of the interim recommendations already made by the Study Group. Government do intend to achieve increased exports of coal as early as possible, as an integral part of the general export promotion programme.

(c) Yes, Sir.