

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Yes, Sir. One of the schemes enumerated under the arrangement is the manufacture of lubricating oil with their collaboration.

Rest Houses for Lamas from Ladakh

*1289. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a rest house has been built in Delhi for the visiting Lamas from Ladakh;

(b) if so, at what cost and how many persons can be accommodated there;

(c) how many Lamas visit Delhi annually;

(d) whether similar facilities will be made available to visiting priests of other religions; and

(e) if so when?

The Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (e). A rest house with a library and reading room together with a hall for cultural activities has been built at a cost of Rs. 5.81 lakhs in Delhi for visitors from Ladakh and other outlying areas and can accommodate 84 persons. The rest house is not meant for exclusive use of Ladakhis or persons professing any particular religion.

We have no information about the number of Lamas visiting Delhi annually.

Shri P. K. Deo: Sir, part (c) of my question has not been answered.

Shri Humayun Kabir: It was completed and handed over to the society in the 19th of May, 1962.

Mr. Speaker: (d) is whether similar facilities will be made available to others.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have replied to that, Sir the rest house is not meant for exclusive use of Ladakhies. So, it is already answered.

Shri P. K. Deo: Then why should it be called a hostel for Lamas?

Mr. Speaker: What is there in the name?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that during the last five years a large number of Ladaakhi Lamas have been seized by the Chinese and liquidated in concentration camps and elsewhere?

Shri Humayun Kabir: How does it arise out of the question on rest house?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This refers to Ladakhi Lamas.

Mr. Speaker: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Coal for Steel Plants

*1275. **Shri A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that last year due to the short supply of coal and slow movement by Railways the production of the Steel Plants was affected;

(b) if so, how the press note issued by the Ministry of Railways on the 8th April, 1962 said that coal requirements of Steel Plants had been met in full;

(c) whether it was due to some irregular co-ordination between the Ministry of Railways and the then Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel; and

(d) what action Government are taking to bring in more co-ordination?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Heavy Electrical Plant in Andhra Pradesh

*1276. **Shri Yallamanda Reddy:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 237 on the 24th November, 1961 and state

the progress since made in setting up of the Heavy Electrical Plant in Andhra Pradesh?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Preliminary work has been taken on hand. Land for the project has been acquired. Levelling and dressing of the plant site and construction of training school, roads and railway sidings are in progress. Six Indian Engineers are associated in the preparation, in Czechoslovakia, of the Detailed Project Report.

Ordnance Factory for Explosives

*1281. **Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is opening a new Ordnance Factory near Bhandara for the manufacture of explosives;

(b) if so, when it is likely to go into production and

(c) what will be the production capacity of the factory?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) and (c). Yes, Sir. It is not in public interest to disclose on the floor of the House the capacity and the products to be manufactured in this factory.

(b) By middle of 1964.

Iron Ore Project in Orissa

*1283. **Shri Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa State Government have been allowed by Central Government to start a project for the extraction and export of two million tons of iron ore annually from a hitherto undeveloped area of the State;

(b) if so, the reasons that have prompted Government to give such permission;

(c) the exact terms and conditions under which the permission has been given; and

(d) whether similar permission is proposed to be given to other State Governments also.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) to (c). The Central Government have approved in principle a scheme of the Orissa Government to step up production of iron ore in the Sukinda-Daitari area, from 0.5 to 2.0 million tons, for export subject to the following conditions—

(i) the State Government accommodating the scheme within their overall ceiling;

(ii) the Railways being able to move the surplus production from this area (surplus to what can be handled through Pradip port) to Calcutta or Vishakhapatnam, as the case may be; and

(iii) the availability of foreign exchange required for the implementation of the mining project.

Part of the Sukinda-Daitari area had already been opened up during the Second Plan for export. The area is close to Calcutta, as well as the proposed new ports at Haldia and Pradip.

(d) The State Government of Mysore has already set up an organisation for the exploitation of mineral resources, including iron ore, for export. Any requests from other State Governments, for undertaking mineral development projects for exports, will be dealt with on merits.

Sale of 'B' Vehicles to Ex-Servicemen

*1290. **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell surplus 'B' vehicles to Ex-servicemen;

(b) what are the terms on which they will be made available; and

(c) whether Government are considering the desirability of selling them on a hire purchase agreement through