

(iii) A Development Council has been set up to advise on the speedy development of this Industry.

With all these measures about 50% of the requirements of the country in machine tools are expected to be met by indigenous production by 1960-61.

House Building Advance

*1349. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government employees have been granted amount for house building as House Building Advance;

(b) how many employees of Posts and Telegraphs Department have benefited up to date; and

(c) whether the scheme extends to class IV employees?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Upto the 22nd March 1958, advances have been sanctioned to 15 employees of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Mining Boards

*1350. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Collieries or regions when Mining Boards as contemplated under the Indian Mines Act, 1952 have been constituted; and

(b) the reasons for not constituting the same in some regions?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Mining Boards are functioning in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Certain particulars required for the constitution of the Mining Boards are still awaited from the State Governments.

Border Incident

*1351. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Pakistani armed forces personnel opened fire on Indian Union Territory from the Sylhet-Cachar border about 25 miles from Karimganj on the 11th March, 1958?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Yes, Sir. A statement is being made today.

Washington International Trade Fair

*1352. { **Shri Vajpayee:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government of India to avail of the opportunities for stimulating Indian trade offered by the forthcoming Washington International Trade Fair?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Select handicrafts products suited to the U.S.A. market will be displayed in the Seattle Fair by the All India Handicrafts Board. Two private concerns which have arranged independently to display their goods at the Fair have also been given facilities.

Ilmenite Sand in Ratnagiri

*1353. **Shri Assar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of ilmenite sand with titanium is available on the coast of Ratnagiri District from Rajiwada to Malgund in Bombay State;

(b) whether Government are aware that large quantity of this sand had been exported;

(c) if so, whether its export has been stopped now; and

(d) whether Government have any scheme to set up a plant for the production of titanium?