

Hiring of Equipments for Rourkela Steel Plant

*789. { Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Morarka:

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

(a) the total amount that has been paid so far towards the hiring of equipments from West Germany for the purposes of civil engineering works in connection with steel re-rolling mills at Rourkela; and

(b) how much of this amount relates to the periods of idleness and how much of this relates for the equipment in operation?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The hire charges payable on plant and equipment used for the civil engineering work in the rolling mills at Rourkela is 3.25 per cent per month for periods of operation and 1.7 per cent per month for periods of idleness. The contractors have billed for the hire charges for plant and machinery for the period ending 30th September 1958, and the bills are under scrutiny. No amount has been actually paid.

Re-import and Re-export of Goods

*790. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to enlarge the facilities for duty-free re-import of manufactured goods or parts thereof of Indian origin, for repairs and re-export; and

(b) if so, the nature of the facilities provided?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required information is contained in the notification of the

Government of India, G. S. R. No. 981, dated 9-8-1958, a copy of which is laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 93]

Life Insurance Corporation

*791. Shri Bimal Ghose: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has effected integration of old and new policies in every zone;

(b) if not, whether it is the intention of the Corporation to effect such integration; and

(c) if so, by what time?

* The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) to (c) The Life Insurance Corporation intends to effect integration of old and new policies in stages and a beginning in that direction has already been made. The work is expected to be completed by about 31st August, 1961.

State Bank of India

*792. Shri I. Facharan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 2217 on the 16th May, 1956 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank of India has since introduced cheque system for savings banks accounts at certain places; and

(b) whether it is proposed to extend the cheque system to all branches of the State Bank?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) Yes

(b) The question of extending the facility of withdrawals of deposits from savings bank accounts by means of cheques to other important centres is under the consideration of the State Bank of India.