

(b) if so, the causes for such closure and the number of mines closed;

(c) whether Government propose to take any step to prevent further closure of iron ore mines; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 25 and 4 iron ore mines were closed in 1958 and 59 (till March) respectively on account of accumulation of stocks non-availability of marketable ore, labour strike and lack of adequate movement capacity.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Efforts are being made to utilise the available movement capacity to service the largest number of mines and secure sufficient orders from purchasers/consumers to enable continuity in production.

West German Loan for India

*2303-A. { Shri Hem Barua:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are negotiating for a DM 252 million loan from West Germany for the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the purposes for which it is proposed to be utilised if the negotiations succeed?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government are not negotiating at present for such a loan. Attention is invited to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1618 answered in the House on 2nd April, 1959. The meeting of friendly countries including West Germany was held in March, 1959 under the auspices of the World Bank to consider financial assistance to India, and from the proceedings of this

meeting it could be inferred that during 1959-60 India could reasonably expect to maintain the momentum of its development programme and meet essential needs of the economy, without undue strain upon its external reserves. The amount of financial assistance that may be made available by any of the participating countries and the purposes for which it may be used is to be determined by bilateral agreements to be negotiated individually with the countries concerned. Accordingly it is proposed to enter into negotiations with West Germany within the next few months.

साहित्य प्रकाशनी

*२३०४. { श्री भक्त वर्त्मनः
राजा महेंद्र प्रतापः

क्या बैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि साहित्य प्रकाशनी के सचिव एक लम्बे दौरे पर विदेश यात्रा के लिये चले गये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हा तो उन की यात्रा का उद्देश्य क्या है ,

(ग) उन का किन-किन देशों का भ्रमण करने का विचार है , और

(घ) क्या सचिव इस प्रयोजन के लिये एक राकफ़रनर अनुदान से लाभ उठा सकें इस के हेतु सरकार की अनुमति ले ली गई थी ?

• बैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य उपमंत्री (डा० म० मो० दास) . (क) जी, हा ।

(ख) जिन देशों में वह जा रहे हैं वहां के साहित्यिक संगठनों से निकट का सम्पर्क बढ़ाना और यह पता लगाना है कि वे टैगोर जन्म शताब्दी समारोह में किस प्रकार सह योग देंगे ।

(ग) बर्मा, थाईलैण्ड, कम्बोडिया, दक्षिण वियतनाम, इंडोनेशिया, मलाया, हांगकांग,