

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The context in which the statement attributed by the Hon'ble Member to the Railway Board may have been made is not clear. The Railway Board do, however, bring to the notice of this Ministry and the Coal Controller, from time to time, instances of supply of inferior coals. The complaints are investigated and suitable action is taken against the colliery or collieries concerned, where necessary.

Loans to Poor Students

*836 Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state whether there is any scheme under the consideration of the Government to advance loans to poor but brilliant students who want to take up professional education?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The Working Group on Technical Education for the Third Five Year Plan, recommended adequate provision of scholarships and loans for deserving students in technical institutions. No definite scheme has yet been prepared.

Steel Allotment to Andhra Pradesh

*838. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of the 9,970 tons of steel allotted to Andhra Pradesh during the period of 1958-59, only 2,917 tons have been hitherto supplied;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh had informed the Union Government that due to the shortage in the supply of steel the construction of various projects already in progress would not proceed further; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The total allotment to Andhra Pradesh in 1958-59 was 33,194 tons and despatches amounted 14,030 tons.

(b) Shortfall in despatches is due to low availability.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The producers have been directed to supply materials required urgently by the State Government on priority basis. Supplies are also being arranged from imports to the extent possible

Loan from the U.S.A.

*839 Shri S. C. Godsora: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the industries in the private sector have been able to utilize the credit earmarked for them from the loan amounts sanctioned by the Export-Import Bank and the Development loan fund of the U.S.A.?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): This will be answered by the Minister of Commerce and Industry on a subsequent date

Commonwealth Educational Conference

*842. Shri S. A. Mehdi: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state

(a) whether a Commonwealth Educational Conference was held in London in July, 1959

(b) if so, whether India participated in it, and

(c) the amount spent on the Indian delegation?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastav): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Information is not readily available.