

elapsed. A court of enquiry will go into it, but how is it that the Government have not got that information except that the building collapsed and so on? Any hon. Member will certainly put a question to know the loss. Any person will be driven to ask, "Is the damage serious, and how much is the loss" etc. It is really strange that the department concerned has not assessed the loss, etc. The hon. Minister will kindly do so as early as possible.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Was there any equipment in the hall where the explosion occurred?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister gave the House all the information that he has.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What was the immediate cause for the explosion? We want to know that.

Mr. Speaker: As early as possible, the hon. Minister will try to give sufficient information to the best of his enquiry, apart from the report to be made by the court of enquiry.

Sale of Pig Iron

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*74. { **Shri Pangarkar:**
Shri Abdul Salam:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:

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

(a) the quantities of pig iron sold to different foreign countries by the Hindustan Steel so far; and

(b) whether such exports of pig iron are intended to be a temporary feature pending the completion of the steel-making sections of the public sector steel plants?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) So far a quantity of 136,900 tons of pig iron produced by Hindustan Steel Limited have been arranged for export to different foreign countries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know the present output of pig iron in India?

Mr. Speaker: All this can be gathered from the annual reports.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: The output of pig iron in 1959-60 from all the steel plants was 9,70,000 tons.

Shri Pangarkar: What is the present annual requirement of pig iron in the country? (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must stand erect and put the question slowly and distinctly.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know the present annual requirements of foundry grade pig iron in the country? (*Interruption*).

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: How could they give the production for 1959-60 so soon?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: I gave the figures for the expected production.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know at what price this pig iron has been exported to various countries? Has it been a uniform price the f.o.b. price and has the price varied with different countries or has it been the same? How does it compare with the imported price that we paid when we were deficit in pig iron?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this? I cannot allow it.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: We have exported pig iron now.

Mr. Speaker: The question about the price does not arise out of the main question. (*Interruption*). Order, order. I have noticed a tendency among hon. Members. When one hon. Member takes the trouble of putting a question, another hon. Member butts in and goes on, trying to get details. If he is interested, why not he table a separate question? He is going into details. No Minister is omniscient and particularly, I am afraid, a Parliamentary Secretary.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: At what price have they exported pig iron?

Mr. Speaker: I will allow that question afterwards.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: Out of the 1,36,900 tons how much actually has been exported and to which countries?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Last year, we had exported nearly 50,000 tons of pig iron outside.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: To which country?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member can ascertain it leisurely. There may be a hundred countries in the world.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: I have got the details. If the hon. Member is interested, I have no objection in giving the information, but it will take time. In the month of July, it was 17,000 tons to Japan; in August, 1,100 tons to Japan; in September, 1,905 tons to Japan; in October, 17,800 tons to Japan; in November, 16,436 tons to Japan. The total is, about 53,000. I have said approximately 50,000.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: I want to know at what price it has been exported?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: I have got the details of the price also. If the Speaker allows, I will read them.

Mr. Speaker: He may read out one price.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Hanuman Foundries Limited have given their quotation for 20,000 tons of pig iron as Rs. 181 per ton f.o.r.

Development Loan Fund

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 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
 Shri Amjad Ali:
 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
 Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
 Shri B. Das Gupta:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the result of talks held with the Managing Director of

Development Loan Fund during the second week of January, 1960 in Delhi with a view to get bigger loan from the United States Development Loan Fund?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The programmes and projects considered suitable for financing by the Development Loan Fund from possible future loans were discussed with Mr. Vance Brand, Managing Director of the Development Loan Fund during his visit to New Delhi in January, 1960. The negotiations have not concluded and are being continued in Washington by the Commission-General for Economic Affairs.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the purposes for which the D.L.F. loans have been utilised?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: So far as the present loans are concerned, the negotiations are not complete. Unless they are finalised, we cannot say the purposes for which they will be utilised.

श्री विभूति मिश्र: क्या सरकार बता सकती है कि ये लोन कौन से सूद के रेट पर लिए जा रहे हैं? क्या सरकार को सूद की दर का पता है?

श्री ब० रा० भगत: सूद का रेट भी अभी बताया जा सकता है जब सारी बात पूरी हो जाए।

Shri Tyagi: In view of the heavy inflationary pressure on the market prices of commodities and other things in India, may I know if the Government or the Planning Commission have fixed any ceiling beyond which they would not encumber the States with foreign loans and if so, what is the ceiling?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The ceiling should not be fixed in relation to the market inflationary pressure, because on economic grounds, the two are not connected. If there is quick production as a result of industrialisation, inflationary pressure will go down. The ceiling is being fixed—whether