

West Germany for rolling and finishing;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the firm with whom any such offers have been discussed?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Hindustan Steel have sold 12,000 tons of slabs to West Germany and the entire quantity has been shipped.

(b) and (c). Do not arise as there are no proposals.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether at any stage a large quantity of these big sized steel ingots—I do not know the exact tonnage, but it was a big amount of about 15,000 to 20,000 tons—had to be shipped to Germany in order to get them rolled into pipes there and they were imported all over again in order to lay the pipelines at Barauni and Gauhati because we had no rolling mills of our own to treat those big ingots?

Sardar Swaran Singh: At the moment, Sir, the slabbing mill at Rourkela has already gone into production and it is producing slabs. I presume when the hon. Member used the expression "ingots" he meant these slabs. The capacity of rolling these slabs into plates and strips is yet coming up, and in the interval the Hindustan Steel have taken a decision—which is a correct one—of exporting these slabs to various countries. They have already sold slabs having exported them to U.K., West Germany, Holland and Italy. So there is no question of rolling these slabs into the material which can be further converted into pipes. These are straightforward sales of slabs.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: My question was whether before this slabbing mill came into operation these slabs were being produced but there was no arrangement due to defective planning for their being rolled at Rourkela and therefore they had to be exported to West Germany at considerable expense, rolled there

into pipes and reshipped back to India?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that the rolling mills are under operation but they will utilise these slabs also later on.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: A lot of money has been lost.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the hon. Member is not quite familiar with it, and he says that slabs were produced without the slabbing mills being in production. No slabs can be produced unless the slabbing mill is in production. This is good quality slab and we are fetching prices of the order of Rs. 375 to Rs. 400 per ton by exporting these slabs and this should be welcome rather than that it should be grudged. By the time that the plate mill and the strip mill are ready, we are producing the slabs and earning money on that.

Shri Raghunath Singh: We are importing steel from outside, and when we are importing steel, why should we also be exporting it? Why should we not utilise it in this country itself?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is a very welcome suggestion. We should produce; we should consume; we should export and we should import as all other countries are doing.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Hirri Dolomite Mine

*837. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 606 on the 20th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the payments of labourers, transport contractors and petty contractors of the Hirri Dolomite Mine have since been made;

(b) on what basis the payment has been made;

(c) whether explanation called for from the Mine Manager has since been received; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Payment for wages for two closed holidays, 2nd October, 1959 and 26th January, 1960 have already been made to all labourers who were present. The absentees have been informed to collect their dues. So far, there have been no claimants from the labour covered by the three missing muster rolls, for payment of their wages. Some bills of the transport contractors and petty contractors are, however, still under scrutiny.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

International Development Association

***839. Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Organisation known as the International Development Association has been formed under the auspices of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund;

(b) whether India has pledged its contribution to the Association; and

(c) the objects of the Association?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes Sir. The Association has been formed as an affiliate of the World Bank.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The object of the Association is to promote economic development by providing finance on easy terms for important developmental requirements of less developed member-countries. Details are contained in the Articles of Agreement of the Association copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

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Representation of S. C. and S. T. in Central Services

***842. Shri M. E. Krishna:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Liaison Officers to ensure observance of instructions on the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Services have been appointed;

(b) when were these officers appointed and what percentage of the reserved vacancies have been filled up with their efforts; and

(c) whether any report has been submitted by the team of liaison officers regarding the causes for the non-observance of the instructions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) Yes, sir, one in each Ministry.

(b) They were appointed in April-May 1959. No separate account is kept of percentage of vacancies filled up with their efforts.

(c) No.

Kolar Gold Mines

***843.** { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Jinachandran:
Shri Mohammed Imam:
Shri Achar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the offer of Mysore Government for the transfer of Kolar Gold Mines to Central Government has been accepted?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The question is under consideration.

Coal Industry

***844. Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the decisions taken at a recent meeting which the Union Minister had in Calcutta with the representatives of coal industry?