

Coke-oven Enquiry Committee

*1631. { Shri Ghosal:
Shri B. Dasgupta:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Coke-oven Enquiry Committee;

(b) whether these recommendations have been accepted by the Government of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) The recommendations made by the Committee which are based upon the assessment of the demand and supply position for hard coke and the economics of the Durgapur scheme of the West Bengal Government are set out in the note which has been placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 21]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Ghosal: May I know whether the production of coke plant of the West Bengal Government will be sufficient for the Durgapur steel plant?

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether the quantity that is produced in that plant will be sufficient for the Durgapur project.

Shri S. N. Mishra: We have estimated the demand as it will occur in 1960; we have not related the demand particularly to the Durgapur Steel works. But I think we have got an estimate of the shortage that we may have.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether the gas grid project of the Durgapur coke oven scheme for supplying gas to Calcutta and areas in between Durgapur and Calcutta has been recommended and, if so, whether it has been accepted by the Central Government?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I have to enquire about it. There is some correspondence going on between the Planning Commission and the Chief Minister.

Two things, particularly, I have in my mind. One is regarding expansion of the size and another regarding the utilisation of the by-product.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: No; I am asking about the gas grid. As far as I understand, the proposal of the West Bengal Government was to build a gas grid from Durgapur to Calcutta to supply gas to Calcutta city and surrounding areas. What has been done with regard to that? Where does that matter stand now?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I am not quite sure about any reference having been made. As I said just now, we have got two things under examination at the moment.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement it is stated that if the renovation programmes of the four private merchant cokeries are completed, their capacity by 1960 would be more than 300,000 tons. May we know at what stage these private cokeries are now?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I can only say that this project is under construction at the moment. Having completed the foundation work, they have begun construction.

Shri B. Dasgupta: There was also a proposal for gas grid from Durgapur to Chittaranjan. May I know whether Government is also contemplating completion of that?

Shri S. N. Mishra: That is not related to this question.

Second All India Agricultural Labour Enquiry

*1632. **Shri R. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made by the Second All India Agricultural Labour Enquiry; and

(b) the findings, if any?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The field work of the Second All-India Agricultural Labour Enquiry is expected to be completed shortly. Thereafter the data collected will be tabulated and report drafted.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how many villages are taken for this enquiry?

Shri Abid Ali: About 3600.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know the type of enquiry that is being made, whether it is the same as has been done in the first enquiry or a new one and if so, the type of enquiry?

Shri Abid Ali: Size, composition, earning strength, wages, employment, under-employment, un-employment, family income, expenditure, indebtedness of agricultural labour, etc. will be the scope of enquiry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I ...

Mr. Speaker: I thought the question has been answered.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The National Sample Survey has been conducting an enquiry into the living conditions of agricultural labour. I wanted to know whether this enquiry which the Labour Ministry has initiated is of the same type or a different one

Shri Abid Ali: I have mentioned the items which are under survey.

Shri Thimmalah: May I know whether these villages have been selected in each State and on what basis these villages are selected?

Shri Abid Ali: It is left to the party to select. Of course, the survey is conducted all over the country.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How long will it take for the committee to complete the work?

Shri Abid Ali: By the end of September, the survey will be completed. Thereafter, tabulation will take some time. Then, there will be drafting of the report. All this will be completed by March-April, next year.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know whether this Committee will go into the question of the proportion of the national income which agricultural labour is getting and whether this has been increasing so far as agricultural

labour is concerned from year to year as per capita income?

Shri Abid Ali: The items to be undertaken by the survey have been mentioned.

Small Scale Industries

*1634. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in marketing scheme instituted on the recommendations of Dr. Lincoln Clark through mobile van;

(b) the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure incurred so far on this scheme; and

(c) the total turn over and profit and loss on this scheme since its inception? z

The Minister of Industry (**Shri Manubhai Shah**): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 22.]

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether the Government propose to proceed further with the scheme? What is their proposal for expansion of the scheme during the Second Plan and at what cost?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the present, it is a pilot scheme. Only twelve vans are working in the country. Recently we have re-oriented the scheme, not so much as a commercial scheme, but as a development scheme. As we go along, if we find that the results are profitable, we propose to expand it.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is apparent from the statement that goods worth about Rs. 73,000 were sold in 1956-57 at a loss of Rs. 1,67,000. Goods produced by small-scale industries worth crores of rupees are being sold. May I know why investigation cannot be conducted in respect of goods which are already being sold without this luxurious agency?

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member will bear with me, as I have