

highly unlikely that a Hindu sweeper who may have come from Pakistan or a temporary permit may have been prosecuted and forced to return to Pakistan.

(f) Does not arise.

STEEL PRODUCING CENTRE IN BIHAR

*1806. **Shri G. P. Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any expert report favouring location of a Steel Production Centre in Bihar; and

(b) the total amount of steel imported in 1951 and 1952?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) The three Steel Consultants appointed by the Government of India in 1948 to survey the possibilities of erecting new steel plants in India, considered several sites in Bihar, but did not recommend the location of a new steel plant in that State.

(b) 177,649 tons in 1951 and 102,875 tons upto 30th June, 1952.

WORKING PARTIES FOR ENGINEERING AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

*1807. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India appointed Working Parties for heavy engineering industries and cotton textiles in accordance with the recommendations made by the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Council of Industries;

(b) if so, whether the Working Parties on heavy engineering industries and the cotton textile industry have submitted their reports to Government;

(c) if so, the main recommendations of the Working Parties; and

(d) whether the same have been examined by Government?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Working Party for Heavy Engineering industries has submitted its report, while the report of Working Party for Cotton Textiles industry is still awaited.

(c) A list of the main recommendations made by the Working Party for Heavy Engineering Industry is placed

on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 46.]

(d) Yes.

DRINKING WATER IN COAL MINES

*1808. **Shri R. B. Shah:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is always acute shortage of drinking water in the coal mines of Chhindwara District of Madhya Pradesh on account of which there is great discontentment in labour quarters;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 1945 Government deputed Mr. Berry, a Civil Engineer, to survey a scheme of water supply in Perch Coal Field Area, who submitted his detailed report suggesting construction of a Dam across the Perch River; and

(c) if so why water supply problem is still not solved?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) There is shortage of water in the coal mines of Chhindwara District in summer. There is, however, no information that the shortage is acute or that it exists always or that there is great discontentment in labour quarters on this score.

(b) Yes.

(c) In view of the excessive cost involved in the execution of the scheme, the Central Government had to drop it. Steps are being taken to request the State Government to set up a Water Board on the lines of Jharia Water Board. When this Board is set up, the situation is likely to improve.

स्लेट

*१८०९. श्री आर० एस० तिवारी :

क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) भारत में उन स्थानों के नाम जहाँ पर स्लेट के कारखाने हैं ;

(ख) उन स्थानों के नाम, जहाँ स्लेट का पत्थर मिलता है ;

(ग) क्या स्लेट का भारत से बाहर निर्यात होता है ; और

(घ) यदि होता है तो कितनी मात्रा में ?