

DEVELOPMENT OF KORBA COALFIELD

*41. **Shri. Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development of Korba coalfield in Madhya Pradesh has been included in the Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether any move is in contemplation to develop it through Private Sector?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) A Mining Lease for a portion of the field has already been granted to a private firm.

PRESS ATTACHES IN EMBASSIES AND LEGATIONS

*42. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our embassies and legations in the Soviet Union and the Eastern European countries do not have press attaches;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether it is proposed to have them in future;

(c) whether it is a fact that not a single handout issued by our embassies and legations in these countries have so far been published in the papers of these countries; and

(d) whether arrangements are made to translate writings in the newspapers in these countries about our country?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri. Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes.

(b) It is not proposed to send any Press Attache either to Moscow or Prague in the near future. These are the only two Eastern European capitals where the Government of India maintains missions.

(c) In Moscow, no press handouts have been issued by the Embassy. Information regarding Prague is being obtained and will be placed before the House as soon as it is available.

(d) Yes.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR STARTING A STEEL PLANT

*43. **Shri D. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on between the Government of India and a firm jointly owned by American and Japanese Business interests for the starting of a steel plant in India; and

(b) whether the site has been selected?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Government are discussing with a party consisting of some Japanese and American interests the project to set up an integrated iron and steel plant in India. It is not in the public interest to disclose further details at this stage.

(b) The site for any future steel plant will be selected later in consultation with the technical experts. Government has an open mind on the subject at present.

REFUGEES FROM FRENCH SETTLEMENTS

*44. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the sad plight of the refugees from French Settlements in India?

(b) What is the total number of men, women and children who have fled from French territory due to harassment and settled in the Indian Union territory?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Exact figures are not available. According to such information as has been received, about 1500 persons have migrated from the French Settlements to India as a result of harassment there. During the last few weeks, 50 families are reported to have migrated from Pondicherry to India.

AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURE IN INDIA

*45. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Anglo-American automobile firms linked with Indian financiers are experiencing great difficulty in finding a market for their products against the imported vehicles?

(b) Do the Government of India propose to help these firms to manufacture cars in India?

(c) If so, what are the specific advantages that Government have decided to offer these firms?

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

(a) If it is the intention of the hon. Member to ascertain whether the Indian firms who are manufacturing automobiles in technical collaboration with Anglo-American firms are experiencing difficulty in finding a market as against those who are merely assembling vehicles from imported C.K.D. kits, the answer is that difficulties, if any, experienced by

these manufacturers could mostly be due to the present slump in the market.

(b) and (c). The Government have all along been rendering all possible help to this industry and would continue to do so. As an interim measure of encouragement to the industry to manufacture in the country as many parts and components as it can, import duties were increased in respect of certain components and reduced in other cases with effect from 1st March 1950. The automobile manufacturers also get weightage in the allocation of foreign exchange for the import of automobiles. Further assistance to be given to the industry will be determined having regard to the recommendations of the Tariff Commission which is enquiring into this industry.

अमुस्लिमों पर आक्रमण

*४६. पंडित अलगूराय शास्त्री : क्या

प्रधान मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के अमुस्लिमों पर १५ अगस्त, १९५२ से ३१ अक्टूबर, १९५२ तक भारतीय सीमा पर कितने आक्रमण हुए तथा इसी अवधि में पाकिस्तानी प्रदेश के अन्दर इसी प्रकार के कितने आक्रमणों की सूचना मिली ;

(ख) इस प्रकार के आक्रमणों में कितने घन, जन की हानि हुई और कितने लोगों को इस कारण पाकिस्तान छोड़ कर भारत आने पर विवश होना पड़ा ; तथा

(ग) क्या सरकार ने भविष्य में इस प्रकार की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही की है ; यदि हाँ, तो वह क्या है और उस का क्या प्रतिफल हुआ है ;

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) According to available information during this period 24 serious attacks were made on non-Muslims of East Pakistan on the Indian border and 52 inside Pakistan. But precise information about the latter is not available.

(b) Five fatal casualties and a loss of about Rs. 5000 on the Indian border. Information about incidents

inside Pakistan is not available, nor about the number of persons who crossed into India as a result.

(c) The West Bengal Government keeps in constant touch with that of East Bengal for the purpose of co-operating in measures to secure the safety of minorities, and to dispel fear and insecurity from their minds. The Central Minister of Minorities and his colleague in Pakistan are similarly engaged.

EXPORT OF BETEL LEAVES AND FRUIT TO PAKISTAN

*47. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has imposed a ban on the import of Indian betel leaf and bananas;

(b) what is the average annual value of the export of these commodities to Pakistan;

(c) whether Pakistan betel leaves and fruits are freely imported into India;

(d) if so, what is the annual volume of the imports;

(e) whether any representations have been made by the agriculturists of the Bassein and the Palghar Talukas of the State of Bombay in regard to these matters;

(f) whether Government are aware that about 10,000 families of agriculturists, besides Adibasi labourers in the two Talukas are facing a grave situation on account of Pakistan's attitude;

(g) whether Government have made any representation to the Pakistan Government in this respect;

(h) if not, why not;

(i) what steps Government have taken to protect the interests of the agriculturists so affected; and

(j) whether it is a fact that Indian air-craft are engaged in the transport of Pakistan pan and fruit?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The import of betel leaf and bananas from India was covered by an open General Licence which has expired and no imports can now be made unless the Pakistan Government grant licences.

(b) Separate figures relating to our export of bananas to Pakistan are not available, as they are included under the general head 'fresh fruits'