

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is our solemn obligation to take all steps to ensure the security of our nationals abroad.

COAL (EXPORTS)

*1023 **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coal so far exported from this country during the current financial year;

(b) the total value of these coal exports; and

(c) the countries to which it has been exported?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (c). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 10.]

(b) Rs. 8,80,00,000. (approximate).

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, the export price of this coal?

Shri K. C. Reddy: At the control price fixed by the Government of India plus other and incidental charges.

Shri Raghavaiah: Are all the demands of the industrial concerns and the tobacco growing peasants who require them met before the coal is exported?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Certainly all the local requirements are met before any coal is exported outside.

Shri Sanganna: What percentage does Orissa coal bears to the total quantity of coal exported outside India?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am sorry, I cannot say straightway now.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it a fact that the tobacco growers of the South have several times complained? What steps have been taken in order to supply them the coal required?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Every possible effort is being made to meet the demands of the tobacco growers. Out of the quantity allotted to them, the major part of it—nearly 84 per cent. of the coal required—can be supplied from the Singaranni Collieries which are near by.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Are we importing any coal from abroad?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It is mentioned in the statement that 2,55,000 tons of coal have been sent to South East Asia. It is also mentioned that it has been sent to Japan, Ceylon, Burma and other countries like Indonesia etc. What does 'South East Asia' indicate?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Some other countries like Hong Kong, Singapore etc.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether it is the policy of the Government to export coal to belligerent countries?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That question has already been answered on the floor of the House.

Shri Dhusiya: Do we get the same price for exported coal as other countries or is it different? If so, which is the highest and lowest price?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The prices are not really comparative. As I said already, the price is the control price fixed by the Government of India plus freight, other and incidental charges. These will vary.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether 'South East Asia' includes Korea also? Is coal exported to Korea?

Shri K. C. Reddy: If the hon. member will look into the statement I have placed on the Table of the House, he will have the answer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is North-East Asia.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I mean North Korea.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is further north.

BLAST FURNACE AT SAMBALPUR

*1024 **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Aetna Japan Company of Japan was carrying on negotiation with the Government of India for erecting a blast furnace at Sambalpur, Orissa and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): Negotiations are being conducted amongst others with the Aetna Engineering Company of Japan for the establishment of an Iron and Steel Plant in India. The question of the location of this Plant has not yet been decided. Negotiations are still in progress.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether Sambalpur was surveyed for locating this plant?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Some surveys have taken place by experts and others, but it is too early to say as to where exactly this plant will be located.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do Government propose to send any delegation to Japan for carrying on negotiations.

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir. Not at present.

Shri Jasani: Was Madhya Pradesh selected for this plant?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It was not actually selected. There is a sort of misapprehension. Actually at no time was any place finally selected. It is to be settled later on.

Shri Jasani: How much time will it take?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot say. Every effort will be made to select a site as early as possible.

Shri Bansal: How much more time will Government take to decide as to where and when this plant will be located.

Shri K. C. Reddy: It will depend upon the advice of the technical collaborators we will finally decide in connection with the establishment of this project. After we consult them, we will decide as to where and when the plant will be located.

Shri Bansal: Is it a fact that these negotiations have been going on for the last five or six years?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes, they have been going on for some time. It is such a big project that we have got to go into all aspects before taking a final decision.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it true that the postponement of power production at Hirakud and Sambalpur has affected the siting of such industries at Sambalpur?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not think so, Sir—so far as I am aware.

Shri Sanganna: May I know, Sir, at how many places iron ore has been discovered in the State of Orissa?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it arise out of this?

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Apart from Orissa and C. Madhya Pradesh,

are there any other claimants for the location of this plant in their States?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes. There are several claimants, Sir, including the one from which the hon. member comes.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is Government aware that this Atena Company is a subsidiary of the Atena Standard Engineering Company of Pittsburg, USA, and is it a fact that the steel delegation which came—the Japanese delegation—was led by an American capitalist by the name of Swelter?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am afraid I cannot give all the details. I can say this much that the Atena Engineering Co. Japan have their American Associates.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I also know if among the conditions sought to be imposed upon us is one which says that the major part of the production of the new concern to be set up in Sambalpur, Orissa, will be sold at cheaper than world rates to the Atena Company of America?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am sorry I cannot go into the details of this question. The whole thing is still in the stage of negotiations. It is too early to commit oneself to anything.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Sir, in connection with the location of this mill, what was the recommendation of the consultants—Coppers Ltd., I think, of New York?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot say. So far as this plant is concerned, there has been no decision as regards where it may be located. The information that the hon. member wants, as to what was the opinion of the particular company, I am not in a position to give it at present.

Shri Natesan: May I know, Sir, what will be the capital involved in starting this Plant?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It all depends upon the capacity of the plant.

Shri Natesan: What is the capital involved in this particular case?

Shri K. C. Reddy: In this particular case we have in view. I can say the capital will be round about 80 crores of rupees for the iron and steel plant.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Can Government give this assurance, that the products of this plant will not be sold to anybody at cheaper than the world price?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I can give this assurance that the interests of the country and the interests of our project will always be kept in mind.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is no answer to my question...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not the occasion when in the form of questions assurances can be asked for from Government. Only facts can be elicited.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I put a question. The hon. member did not divulge the information. He said it is only at the negotiation stage. I wanted an assurance whether India's interests will be taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. members cannot ask for assurances on the floor of the House during this question hour. They can only elicit information.

Shri Nambiar: If at all they can, let them give.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They won't give. This is not the proper occasion for it.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, how many sites have been examined and whether any new sites are to be examined yet?

Shri K. C. Reddy: One in Bihar and one in Madhya Pradesh and one in Orissa.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

***1025. Shri P. T. Chaeko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having diplomatic relations with 'Israel';

(b) whether any Indians have relinquished citizenship of India to acquire the citizenship of Israel;

(c) whether any Indians have left India to have their permanent residence in Israel and if so, how many; and

(d) whether any Indians, who have gone to Israel for permanent residence have come back, and if so, how many?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) India has recognized the Government of Israel but thus far neither country has a diplomatic mission in the other.

(b) None.

(c) It is estimated that 2,367 Jews have emigrated from India to Israel

since 1948. It is not known how many of them were of Indian nationality.

(d) Yes, about 332 Indians returned to India from Israel during the period 15th May, 1948, to 31st August, 1952.

Shri P. T. Chaeko: May I know, Sir, whether all those persons who went to Israel for permanent residence there, relinquished the Indian citizenship when they went there?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is not necessary according to the laws of Israel. Any Jew who migrates into that country automatically acquires the nationality of that country.

Shri P. T. Chaeko: May I know, Sir, whether for rehabilitating those who returned from Israel, the Government had to spend any amount?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Not to our knowledge, Sir.

Shri P. T. Chaeko: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have sent any students to Israel to watch and study the modern agricultural developments in that country?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: How does that question arise out of the parent question, Sir? If I have notice, certainly I can enquire.

BICYCLES (IMPORT POLICY)

***1026. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the reason for the delay in the announcement of 'bicycle import policy' by Government for the latter half of the current year?

(b) What is the total annual demand of bicycles in India and what is the indigenous supply of the same?

(c) What is the present stock of bicycles and what was the total import of bicycles in the first half of this year?

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

(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to para. 2 of the introduction to the Red Book of Import Trade Control Policy for the period July—December, 1952, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House.

(b) The total annual demand is estimated to be nearly 500,000 cycles. The indigenous production was 114,275 cycles during 1951 and 131,106 cycles this year upto September.

(c) Government have no information about the present stock position. During the first half of this year