Pakistan is making an excuse of the recent Act that we passed, in respect of the settlement of moveable property, and is trying to postpone the settlement?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I shall want notice of that.

NANDIKONDA PROJECT

- *139. Shri Raghuramaiah: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 661 asked on the 8th September. 1954 and state:
- (a) whether any decision has since been taken regarding the inclusion of the Nandikonda Project in the First Five Year Plan; and
 - (b) if so, what?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The report of the Technical Committee on the Nandikonda Project was placed on the Table of the House in answer to starred question No. 22 on November 15, 1954. The report was Governments of the referred to Andhra and Hyderabad for comments. The Hyderabad Government is in general agreement with the conclusions reached by the Technical Committee. The comments of the Andhra Government are awaited. As soon as these are received, a decision will be taken.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know when this report was sent for the remarks of the Andhra Government?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): That was in the middle of October.

Shri Raghuramaiah: In view of the fact that this is to be included in the First Five Year Plan, and considerable time has already lapsed, may I know whether the Andhra Government have been reminded of the urgency, and if so, when a reply is expected, and how soon a decision is to be taken?

Shri Nanda: As has been already pointed out in the reply, one Government concerned has already stated its views. The other did not find itself in a position to give a reply in time. We are pursuing the matter, and we are expediting it, and as soon as possible, a decision will be taken.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether any time-limit is to be fixed, so that the matter may be clinched very soon?

Shri Nanda: We can have a timelimit for ourselves, but we cannot impose limits like that on everybody else.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I have an assurance from the hon. Minister that in view of the recent constitutional changes in Andhra, the Government of India would get in touch with the Governor and see that early decisions are taken on this matter.

Shri Nanda: That is being done.

MECHANISATION OF COAL MINING INDUSTRY

- *141. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to
- (a) whether Government propose to introduce any scheme for the mechanisation of Coal Mining in India in the near future;
 - (b) if so, what are its details;
- (c) whether any foreign aid has been sought for the implementation of the schemes; and
- (d) if so, what are the results achieved so far?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) No. The possibility of encouraging mechanisation in new mines sought to be opened is however kept in mind.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know why in spite of the fact that the estimated

supplies of metallurgical coal are limited, and the production is very much declining, while the demand is increasing. Government have not taken any specific steps in this direction?

Shri R. G. Dubey: So far as the question of demand is concerned, looking to the supply position, there is no indication to show that there is any increase in the demand.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Do not Government expect that in the coming years when we are setting up new steel plants, the demand for metallurgical coal will be considerably enhanced?

Shri R. G. Dubey: Government are aware of that aspect, and that is why the Coal Board has been directed to review the applications for opening new mines and collieries, with a view to undertaking mechanisation as far as possible.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I know the average depths from which coal is recovered now in the various mines, and also the weight of water that has to be lifted along with one ton of coal from these mines, on the average?

Shri R. G. Dubey: If the hon. Member gives separate notice, I think it will be possible to answer this question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is related to mechanisation.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

N.E.F.A.

*142. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for the economic development of North-East Frontier Agency; and

(b) the number of community projects that have been started in 1954 in the area?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Five year development plan; Community Projects; National extension blocks.

(b) One National Extension Block has been started in 1954.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total amount provided for economic development in this area?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: There are various schemes, and I am afraid I cannot state now the total amount sanctioned for these.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total population of the NEFA area?

Shri Anii K. Chanda: I would like a separate question to be put.

SAFETY RAZORS AND BLADES

*145. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

 (a) the total quantity of safety razors and blades manufactured in India annually;

(b) the names of the concerns engaged in the manufacture of these articles;

(c) whether the production meets the requirements of the country; and

(d) if not, the names of the countries from which they are imported?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Safety razors are not manufactured in India. As regards razor blades which are manufactured in the country, a statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 36.]

(b) A statement showing the names of firms engaged in the manufacture of razor blades is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 37.]

(c) No, Sir.

(d) U.K., West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Japan.