

question of including a suitable scheme of planting of rubber in the Second Five Year Plan is under consideration.

STEEL PLANT

***1604. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative claims of the sites that were visited by the Russian experts in connection with the location of Iron and Steel Plant;

(b) the reason for selecting a site in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) what is the relative advantage of the site selected to the sites rejected by the experts?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) to (c). The Soviet Team of experts considered six sites for the Steel Plant, namely Gondia, Bilai and Champa in Madhya Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, and Sindri and Bokaro in Bihar, as well as the alternative of locating the plant in Madras or Mysore State. On the basis of a comparative examination of the availability of raw materials like iron ore, steam coal, and limestone, the cost of transportation of these raw materials and of the finished products and the water and power resources, the Soviet Team of experts recommended the Bhilai region of the Madhya Pradesh State as the most economical location for the establishment of the steel plant. The Government considered this Report and the opinions given by the Indian experts and approved of the recommendation of the Soviet experts.

YARN

***1605. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have prohibited the purchase of yarn by owners of spinning plants;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much additional yarn will be available to handloom industry every month on this account?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir. There are orders, however, that a producer having a spinning plant cannot purchase yarn except with the permission of the Textile Commissioner.

(b) and (c). The object of the order is to ensure that supplies of yarn to the handloom industry are well maintained. It is not possible to estimate, however, what additional supplies would be thus available.

LABOUR EMPLOYED IN OIL REFINERIES

***1606. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the number of Indian technical and non-technical labour employed at present in the Burmah-Shell and Stanvac Refineries separately?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): The total number of Indian technical and non-technical (*i.e.*, skilled and unskilled) labour employed by the two refineries as on 10-3-1955 was as under:—

Standard-Vacuum	478
Burmah-Shell	643

इस्पात

* १६०५. श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत इस्पात उत्पन्न करने के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निश्चित किया गया है; और

(ख) क्या द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना की कालावधि के बाद विदर्शां से इस्पात का आयात करना आवश्यक होगा?

बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो):

(क) अभी कोई लक्ष्य निश्चित नहीं किया गया है। हमारा वर्तमान अनुमान ६० लाख टन इस्पात पिंडों से अधिक का है।

(ख) जब तक द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना का पूरा रूप तैयार न हो जाए यह कहना सम्भव नहीं