

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Government propose to assist in the expansion of existing steel works. The establishment of a new works is also under consideration. No specific approach has been made for the investment of U.S. private capital in India's steel industry.

IMPORT OF MEDICINES

302. Shri Badshah Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state as to which five items out of medicines imported into India used up the largest amount of foreign exchange during 1948-49 and 1951-52 respectively?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No separate accounts are kept for imports of individual items in the category of medicines.

WOMEN EMPLOYED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

303. Shri Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of women who applied through National Employment Exchanges found employment during 1951; and

(b) out of the total number who found employment how many are displaced women?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 52.4 per cent. of the two men applicants who registered with the Employment Exchanges were placed in employment during 1951;

(b) 1,482.

COAL TO BRICK INDUSTRY

504. Shri Ramji Verma: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the present basis on which quota of coal is sanctioned by the Deputy Coal Commissioner (D) Calcutta to the Indian Brick Industry in each of the various States;

(b) the quota of coal allowed per brick kiln in each of the years from 1942 to-date and the reasons for the changes, if any, made in the quota from time to time;

(c) the number of cases wherein supply of coal against permits issued was delayed for over six months since 1st April, 1951, and the reasons for the delay in each case; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that supply of coal

is made to the brick industry regularly?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The quotas for the Brick Industry are sanctioned, as in the case of other industries, on the basis of the demand, the relative priority of the industry, and the wagon supply likely to be available during the period.

(b) Distribution of coal to individual kilns is arranged by the Coal Controllers of the State Governments. The collection of this information from the various State Controllers for a period extending to nearly 10 years will involve an altogether disproportionate amount of time and labour.

Quotas are changed from time to time, keeping in view the demand, and transport availability.

(c) Figures of despatches against permits for brick burning coal are maintained Statewise and not for each individual allottee. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish this information.

(d) Inadequate transport is affecting supplies to all consumers including the brick kiln industry. The Coal Commissioner is making every endeavour to maximise supplies to brick kilns taking into account the needs of other essential consumers and the transport facilities available. The supply position can improve only with improvement in the general transport position. The question of improving the wagon supply for coal loading is receiving the close and continuous attention of the Railway Board and the Railway Administrations concerned.

BHAKRA CONTROL BOARD

505. Shri Badshah Gupta: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the personnel of the Bhakra Control Board;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the Board till the end of May, 1952; and

(c) the monthly expenditure, if any, that is being incurred on the Board?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a). The Bhakra Control Board consists of the following:

(1) Shri Chandulal Trivedi,
(Governor Punjab).

Chairman.