

(b) Were negotiations carried on with these firms for the manufacture of synthetic petrol?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what led Government to give up the plans for synthetic petrol manufacture and accept the foreign firms' offer for setting up oil refineries?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) Certain heads of agreement have been reached between the oil companies mentioned and the Government of India by the exchange of letters. Discussions are proceeding with a third oil company, the Caltex Limited, for the establishment of a third refinery. It would, therefore, be undesirable at this stage to give any details on the heads of agreement reached. The attention of the hon. Member is, however, invited to the Press Notes issued on 30th November 1951 and 15th December 1951.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question of manufacture of synthetic petrol was not considered in the context of these discussions. The proposal for the manufacture of synthetic petrol is still under the consideration of Government.

#### EXPORT OF COAL TO JAPAN

347. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state how many tons of coal have been exported to Japan in 1950, 1951 and 1952?

(b) What varieties of coal were exported and what was the price per ton?

(c) Is there any contract between the Government of India and that of Japan in respect of the supply of coal?

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

Year	Tons
1950	96,881
1951	543,219
1952 (upto September)	889,630

(b) Both coking and non-coking coals comprising selected grades A and B were exported. The base ex-

port prices F.O.B. Calcutta have been as follows:

	1-10-51 to 31-12-51	1-1-52 to 31-3-52	From 1-4-1952
Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p.			
Coking	Selected A	32-10-0	34-10-0 35-10-0
	Selected B	31-10-0	33-10-0 34-10-0

Non-Coking	Selected A	31-13-0	32-13-0 33-9-0
	Selected B	30-13-0	31-13-0 32-9-0

The approximate average price for export to Japan prior to 28th February 1951 was Rs. 30/7/- per ton F.O.B. Calcutta. During the period from 26th February 1951 to 30th September 1951, the average F.O.B. Calcutta price for Japan was Rs. 41/7/- per ton.

(c) There is no formal contract.

#### PRODUCTION IN GRADIN COLLIERIES

348. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the total quantity of all varieties of coal produced by the Indian Government Railway Collieries, Giridih (Bihar) during each of the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Are the Collieries running at a loss and if so, to what extent annually?

(c) Is the loss due to a fall in output and if so, do Government propose to develop mines in Jat Khuti Hills with a view to increasing the output?

(d) Are there other workable reserves in these Collieries capable of yielding coal with less than 30 per cent. of ash content?

(e) What steps are contemplated by Government to effect economies in expenses in order to level down the annual losses?

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

1947-48	.....	4,88,000 tons
1948-49	.....	4,45,983 tons
1949-50	.....	3,73,960 tons
1950-51	.....	3,26,097 tons
1951-52	.....	3,09,004 tons

(b) Yes, the losses were as follows:

1948-49	.....	Rs. 29,28,956
1949-50	.....	Rs. 40,97,666
1950-51	.....	Rs. 47,74,183
1951-52	.....	Rs. 48,78,933