

(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?

(a) 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

(c) The loss is due to fall in output, higher tub rates, low output per man shift, surplus labour and difficult mining conditions. Arrangements have already been made to start coal production from the non-coking coal Bbadua seam of Jat Khuti Hill.

(d) Yes; Upper Kurbarbaroo seam with a reserve of about 2 million tons of coking coal, selected A Grade.

(e) The following steps have been or are being taken to reduce the losses:—

- (i) Recruitment of labour and staff has been practically stopped for the last 3 or 4 years.
- (ii) It is proposed to discharge surplus labour and staff which cost at present more than Rs. 12 lakhs annually.
- (iii) Consumption of colliery stores is being strictly controlled and is restricted.
- (iv) All other working expenses are being strictly controlled.
- (v) Increased output from Bhadua Sel. B—non-coking coal is proposed.

#### MICA EXPORTS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND U. S. S. R.

349. **Shri N. P. Saha:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of mica exported to Czechoslovakia and Soviet Russia in the calendar years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Has Brazil Mica been imported into India during the above three years and, if so, how much in each of the said years?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) Exports to Czechoslovakia:

Year	Tons
1949	7
1950	14
1951	113

There were no exports to Soviet Russia during these years.

(b) No. Sir

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

350. **Shri Madhab Gowda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Cottage Industries Board held on 17th March, 1952 and the steps taken to implement the same?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 47.]

#### CENTRAL SILK BOARD

351. **Shri Madhab Gowda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the programme of work of the Central Silk Board for the year 1952-53 and also its budget?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The Central Silk Board was last reconstituted on the 9th April 1952. This Board held its first meeting at New Delhi on the 22nd September, 1952. Since then two meetings of the Technical Development Committee and one meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board have been held wherein important decisions regarding the development of the sericulture industry were taken. Grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 1,60,390/- against various sericultural development schemes of the State Governments were sanctioned. A further grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,00,000/- for the establishment of Sericultural Research Stations in Mysore, Madras, West Bengal and Assam was also sanctioned. Besides watching the various development schemes for which grants are given to the various State Governments, the Board has under consideration a programme of work during 1952-53. A statement "A" is placed on the Table of the House giving details of this programme.

During the financial year 1952-53, the Central Silk Board has been given a grant of Rs. 4,50,000 by the Central Government and the Board propose to spend Rs. 4,71,699/- (including carry over of Rs. 21,699/- from last year) in the manner indicated in statement 'B' placed on the Table of the House. [For statements 'A' and 'B' See Appendix V, annexure No. 48.]

#### MACHINERY AND TOOLS IMPORTED FROM U. K.

352. **Pandit Manishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the amount and valuation of machinery and tools imported from the U.K. in the year 1952?

(b) What kind of machines have been imported and how many of them have reached their destinations in India?

(c) How many of such machines are for starting new factories and how many are for replacements?