

(c) The production is expected to increase substantially after September 1967, when the zinc imports of Messrs Tata Iron and Steel Co and Messrs Indian Iron and Steel Co. are likely to materialise. Rourkela will also start production of galvanised sheets in September, 1967. It is not considered necessary to set up any further capacity at this stage.

Industrial Production

4910. **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any agency to record the performance of all the firms and/or proprietary concerns licensed/registered under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 in regard to industrial production, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) It is the Directorate General of Technical Development, which is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs

Export of Manganese Ore

4911 **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation could not maintain exports of manganese ore at the level of 1965-66 and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reasons for fall in export chiefly are:—

(i) Emergence of new sources of supply near the consuming coun-

tries, (ii) Increase in the production of captive mines of consumers, (iii) Lesser dependence on manganese ore in steel production due to technological advances, (iv) growing internal requirements of manganese ore on account of increased production of ferro-manganese and steel, and (v) change in the pattern of sales of manganese ore from barter to Cash Sales.

Manufacture of Newsprint

4912 **Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether experiments are being conducted on the manufacture of newsprint from the fir trees growing on the Himalayan ranges

(b) whether it is proposed to set up factories for the purpose and

(c) if so, where?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) The Forest Research Institute and College, Dehradun, have carried out work on Abies pindrow Royle (Silver fir) from Himalayas for manufacture of ground wood pulp and it is reported that this wood is a suitable for raw material for the production of newsprint

(b) and (c) It is proposed to set up a newsprint factory in private sector in Himachal Pradesh for which negotiations between State Government and the Indian Coy for supply of raw materials are in progress

Meeting of the UNCTAD

4913. **Shri Sidheshwar Fenead:** Will, the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the UNCTAD was held in Geneva in September, 1965;

(b) the issues discussed and decisions, if any, taken at the meeting, and

(c) when the next meeting is going to be held