

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Binesh Singh): (a) The feasibility of exporting 0.25 million tonnes of Coking Coal to Japan is still under consideration.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Restriction on Movement of Coal

3498. Shri G. C. Dixit: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request for the removal of restriction on the movement of coal from Madhya Pradesh coal fields North of Jhansi has been received; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes.

(b) The request could not be agreed to, as the rational and planned source for coal supplies to destinations north of Katni-Bina-Kotah section is the Bengal/Bihar coalfield.

Any ad hoc movement against the rationalisation scheme in force would upset the existing pattern of movement for which capacities have already been developed. This would thus result in wastage of line capacities and also lead to avoidable cross movements of coal on difficult routes.

The Sub-Committee set up under the Coal Development Council's Committee on Transport, Distribution and Control has already constituted a sub-committee to examine the present restrictions in force for coal movements. Their recommendations are awaited.

Katni-Singrauli-Chopan Railway Line

3499. Shri G. C. Dixit: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the Katni-Singrauli-Chopan railway line is likely to be completed and opened for traffic; and

(b) when the section between Chopan and Singrauli coal fields is likely to be completed and opened for traffic?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) and (b). Probably the hon. Member is referring to the rail link from Katni to Obra via Singrauli. The Obra-Singrauli section is scheduled for completion by 1st October, 1968, while the target date for completion of Singrauli-Katni portion is 31st March, 1970.

Industrial Units in Andhra Pradesh

3500. Shri Esvara Reddy: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the chronic famine and drought conditions prevalent in Anantapur, Kurnool, Chittoor and Cudappah districts of Andhra Pradesh, Government propose to start some industrial units in these areas to relieve unemployment and distress of the people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Price of Cloth

3502. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Rabi Ray:
Shri Kameshwar Singh:
Shri S. M. Joshi:
Shri Sequeira:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different prices are fixed for the cloth of controlled variety produced by different Mills although the count and quality of yarn are the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that the controlled prices of the same quality