

other concerns which have been given licences for production of additional quantity of 10,000 tons of caustic soda. With a view to find out the further possibilities, as I said, we have circularized all the State Governments to give us the information.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether any factories will be established at places where these chemicals and minerals are available?

Shri Karmarkar: It is not only the question of minerals, but other factors also. All factors will be taken into consideration.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I know whether Government is aware of the project of the Andhra Government to establish a caustic soda factory in the Visakhapatnam area, and if so, in what manner do Government propose to assist in that project?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware of the recommendations of the Andhra Government, but I shall find out.

Shri N. L. Joshi: May I know the value of the caustic soda imported from abroad?

Shri Karmarkar: From April to December, 1953, the value of caustic soda imported is Rs. 1,97,09,000, and of soda ash imported for the same period is Rs. 79,56,000.

COAL

*1857. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coal produced in the country in 1953; and

(b) how this figure compares with those of 1951 and 1952?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri E. G. Dubey): (a) and (b). 1951—34,307,563 Tons; 1952—36,222,531 Tons; 1953—35,846,898 Tons.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that production of coal is suffering for want of transport facilities, and if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Shri E. G. Dubey: It is a fact. One of the difficulties is the non-availability of adequate transport facilities and the Planning Commission, as I said on a previous occasion, is seized of the problem already.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Are we losing foreign markets?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): We are not losing the foreign markets because of the reduction in production and the overall shortage of wagons. Foreign exports have shrunk because of entirely different causes.

Shri K. P. Sinha: What are the reasons?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That question was answered on a previous occasion. Owing to adventitious circumstances, we had very favourable markets in the years 1951 and 1952—owing to the Korean war and other reasons. Those causes have disappeared now, and we now depend only on our normal markets. That is why there has been a shortfall in the export of coal during the year, 1953.

CENTRAL WATER & POWER RESEARCH STATION, POONA

*1858. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state how many experiments in models and structures in connection with various schemes have been conducted by the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): More than 4,000 experiments in connection with over 250 problems bearing on various Schemes have been conducted by the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know how far the experiments in models and structures have been applied and how far they have been successful in implementation?

Shri Hathi: In most cases the experiments have proved successful and they have been followed.