

National Coal Development Corporation was, however, below the target set for this period. This is because of the inherent difficulties in developing new mines in virgin areas. The production in October from these mines has risen to 0.56 million tons, which works out to an annual rate of 6.72 million tons, and this improvement is expected to be maintained. All arrangements on ground would have been established by the National Coal Development Corporation by the end of March 1961 for a production commensurate with their Second Plan target of 13.5 million tons. It should be possible to attain the full targeted rate of output well within the first year of the Third Plan.

(d) The question of reorganising the National Coal Development Corporation to enable them to cope with the target of additional production that will be allotted to them during the Third Plan is under Government's consideration, and a final decision is expected to be taken in the near future.

Soft Coke in Delhi

495. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of soft coke in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for supply of soft coke?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. But the usual steps have been taken to maintain adequate stocks with dealers.

Smuggling of Indian Coins

496. Dr. Samantsinhar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a well organised team that carries on regular

smuggling of Indian coins through Nepal and Ceylon;

(b) if so, since how long this is being carried on and how many cases have been detected during 1960; and

(c) what is the total amount involved, number of persons with their nationalities and the number of persons prosecuted so far?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) As far as Government are aware, the answer is in the negative.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Rourkela Steel Plant

497. Dr. Samantsinhar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the cause of cracks at the top of the first blast furnace of the Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) when was this detected, the total loss, anticipated cost and time of repair; and

(c) who is responsible for this breakage and what action has been taken against him?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No cracks have appeared at the top of the first blast furnace of the Rourkela Steel Plant.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Vijnan Mandirs

498. Shri B. C. Mullick: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 330 on the 11th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the question of adding a cultural wing to the Vijnan Mandirs has since been considered; and

(b) if so, the amount of money to be involved in such addition?