

Production of Iron ore etc.

2980. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of pig iron, steel rolled sections iron ore, oil cubic metres of gas, and coal during 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60 and 1960-61 and how the same compared with production in U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R., France and a few other leading producer countries;

(b) by what year India is likely to become self-sufficient in the above Commodities; and

(c) whether India will be in a position to export some of these commodities in substantial quantities in the near future?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Statements giving the available information are laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 3].

(b) India is already self-sufficient in respect of iron ore and coal. It is also more or less self sufficient in pig iron at present, but it is not likely to be self sufficient in the near future in so far as steel requirements are concerned although there may be marginal surpluses in some categories. It may be possible to determine the time when self-sufficiency in Oil may be attained only after the results of the present explorative activities in Gujarat, Assam and other promising areas have become know.

(c) India is already exporting substantial quantities of iron ore and meeting some of the coal requirements of neighbouring countries. In view of reply to part (b) above, the question of export does not arise in respect of pig iron, steel, oil (except Motor Spirit) and Natural Gas.

Steel Plant at Salem

2981. Shri Dharmalingam: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the establishment of a steel plant at Salem has been included in the Third Five Year Plan; and
(b) if so, the cost at which it is proposed to be established?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The draft outline of the Third Five Year Plan envisages the establishment of a pig iron plant using the lignite in Neyveli to reduce iron ore. The scheme is in its preliminary stage of investigation.

Tribal Rural Welfare Schemes in Orissa

2982. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted from the State and Central Sectors separately on Tribal Rural Welfare Schemes for construction of roads in tribal areas in Orissa State, district-wise, during the Second Five Year Plan period yearwise so far;

(b) the number and names of roads district-wise completed or under construction so far with that amount;

(c) the names of the roads, district-wise, repaired with that amount during the First Five Year Plan period;

(d) by what time the rest of work would be completed; and

(e) the names of roads among them district-wise made all weather and fair weather bullock cartable, motorable and bus-serviceable so far?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Examination of Proposals before Sanction of Expenditure

2983. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether he examines proposals regarding air-conditioning and the