

(b) The management of the mills is reported to be seeking financial assistance from financing institutions.

Kangra Tea Planters Marketing Industrial Society Ltd.

1264. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government have approached the Central Government or the Tea Board for the grant of a loan of Rs. 5 lakh for the starting of the Kangra Tea Planters Marketing Industrial Society Ltd., Palampur; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Central Government?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Tea Board has received a request from the Punjab Government for a loan of Rs. 3 lakhs only in this respect.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Board.

Closure of Coal Mines in Bihar

1265. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines closed in the State of Bihar since the declaration of Emergency; and

(b) the reasons for the closure?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Two coal mines, viz., Jogta and Ekra Khas collieries have been closed since the declaration of the emergency.

(b) In both cases, there was occurrence of fire in the mines, and in order to control the fire, these had to be flooded. This resulted in the closure of the mines.

Mining Machinery Plant at Singareni Colliery Area

1266. { **Shri Sudhansu Das:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a second Mining Machinery Plant is proposed to be established in the Singareni Colliery area;

(b) if so, the kind of machinery which will be produced there; and

(c) the annual production thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) The location of the Plant has not yet been finally decided. Singareni Colliery area is one of the places under consideration.

(b) and (c). Details regarding the specific items to be manufactured and the production capacities are to be finalised in consultation with the Polish experts.

Bokaro Steel Plant

1268. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to entrust the construction of the Bokaro Steel Plant to certain Indian firms;

(b) if so, to whom this work has been entrusted and whether a time schedule has been finalised for the construction programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) to (c). Government intend to entrust the engineering consultancy work of Bokaro to Messrs M. N. Dastur & Co., an Indian firm, who prepared the Detailed Project

Report for the plant. The terms and conditions of the proposed consultancy agreement are being negotiated with the firm.

According to the schedule of construction indicated in the detailed project report, the first stage of the Plant (1.5 million tonne ingot annually) is to be completed in 1967-68, and the second stage of the plant (4 million tonnes ingot annually) is to be completed in 1970-71. The detailed project report is now under scrutiny of a Technical Committee.

12 hrs.

RE: PROCEDURE ABOUT CALLING
ATTENTION NOTICES

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): Before you take up the next item of business, I want to make a very brief submission. It concerns the whole House and therefore I am taking the liberty of making it here without first approaching you in the Chamber. It concerns the procedure adopted in relation to Calling Attention Notices. Yesterday, some of us, and I was one of them, submitted a Calling Attention Notice relating to the arming of the citizens of the so-called Azad Kashmir by the Pakistan authorities, and I was told that it is still under consideration. But, in the meantime this motion or notice was allowed in the other House and it came up there. Now, the result is when this kind of thing happens, it deflates the alertness of hon. Members of this House and denegrates this House's status and further makes us crestfallen and sullen. That is why I make this submission to you.

Mr. Speaker: Both the Houses are sovereign in their own procedures. I cannot just say anything about what procedure that House adopts.

Shri Kapur Singh: What is the solution?

Mr. Speaker: Then again the hon. Member would not advise me just to follow whatever they might do; but this distinction must be realised that with half the number of Members there, they have about the same time as we have with 500 Members. Therefore, they will certainly have greater opportunities if their sessions co-extend with ours and are co-terminous. They have the same time and they would require more work to do, while we require more time to finish our work. (*Interruption*) I am just describing the difficulties; that distinction is there. That House is sovereign and I cannot interfere with their procedure. Whatever they think it proper there, they have every right to proceed with that. If my procedure or what we have adopted here is being discussed, Members are welcome and we can discuss it here.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I think the objection was not raised against the Chair.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): It is not a question of our having any doubts about the procedure that you have adopted but obviously it was on account of the Government's unreadiness to come to this House with the material on this subject that you held it over. But the Government was ready and willing to go to the other House, in preference to this House, which is something quite irrespective of what you have just now said. There may be some reason, good bad or indifferent, if the other House has less work or there is no work essentially speaking. That is a different matter. But on this occasion, what the Ministers have done is to misguide and misinform you and do something which amounts to a virtual disregard of this House to which they are primarily responsible. That was my point.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): There are three parties here: The Secretariat, the hon. Members and yourself. Any one or all of us must be responsible for this failure.