

watches are made have difficulty in getting the watches; and

(b) if so, whether the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. contemplate to sell the watches in State capitals and important cities for at least a limited period every year?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). Due to limited production at present the watches manufactured by the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. are being sold from its offices and showrooms located at Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Pinjore and Ernakulam. However, as production increases the selling organisation will also be expanded. The company is, for the present, making arrangements for opening about 24 sales offices and service centres in all the important cities of the country.

लंहे और इस्पात के मूल्य

३७०. श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या इस्पात, खान तथा भारी इंजीनियरिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अक्टूबर-नवम्बर, १९६३ में लंहे और इस्पात के मूल्य अधिक रहे हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो मूल्यों में वृद्धि रोकने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कदम उठये हैं ?

इस्पात, खान तथा भारी इंजीनियरिंग मंत्री (श्री चि० सुब्रह्मण्यम) : (क) जी नहीं । लंहे और इस्पात के परिणियत विक्रय-मूल्यों में अक्टूबर और नवम्बर, १९६३ में संशोधन नहीं किया गया है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants

371. { Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Subodh Hansda;
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of steel ingots are lying unsold in the factory premises of Durgapur and Rourkela for the last one year; and

(b) if so, whether any arrangement has been made to sell them?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). Accumulation of ingots at Durgapur and Rourkela has not exceeded 10000 to 15000 tonnes over normal requirements of the plants during the last year. Arrangements have already been made for the sale of these surplus ingots.

Refractories Plant

372. { Shri B. K. Das;
Shri Subodh Hansda;
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

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

(a) whether there is any scheme to set up refractories plant in Public Sector;

(b) if so, where this will be located;

(c) the requirement of refractories at present; and

(d) the source from which it is met?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, there is a proposal to set up a basic refractory plant in the public sector. The location has not so far been decided.

(c) and (d). The requirement of refractories at present is approximately 700,000 tons per annum but is likely to increase when Steel Capacity is further expanded. A major portion of the present requirements is met from indigenous sources and the balance from imports.

Newsprint Factory in Wynad (Kerala)

373. Shri Koya: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a new print factory in Wynad in Kerala in view of the availability in plenty of bamboos there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Frozen Fish

374. { Shri Warrior:
Shri Rama Chandra
Mallick:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of frozen fish and shrimp exported during the last three years; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned on this account?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Exports of frozen fish and shrimps are not separately classified in the Indian Trade Classification. However, according to the Marine Products Export Promotion Council, Ernakulam, the exports of frozen fish and shrimps during the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 were 1.39 million kg. 1.38 million kg. and 2.26 million kg. earning foreign exchange of the order of Rs. 0.72 crores, Rs. 0.85 crores and Rs. 1.08 crores respectively.

Pig Iron

375. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of small foundries situated at Agra (U.P.) consumed 54,000 tons of pig iron in 1962;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have been given pig iron quota for 5,000 tons in 1962-63; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) It is not possible to say whether the small foundries situated in Agra consumed 54,000 tons of pig iron in 1962, as separate statistics of supply of pig iron to various towns in the States are not available. A quantity of 57,588 tonnes of pig iron was despatched/supplied to Uttar Pradesh State for both large and small scale foundries, during 1962.

(b) No, Sir. There was no quota system of allotment of pig iron in 1962-63 and foundries could place incidents either on stockists or producers to the extent of their requirements without any authorisation.

(c) Does not arise.

Pig Iron

376. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pig iron allotted to the steel works maintenance and the railway sleepers is much more than necessary for the actual production which have been achieved by the steel works and railway departments; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken to make interim assessments of the savings of pig iron by the various departments in the public sector so that it may be utilised for