

Rates for Iron Ore

2405. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the mine owners of Bellary District requesting Government to take into consideration the distance of the mines to the loading railway stations in fixing the f.o.r. rates for iron ore;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that preferential rates have been paid to certain mine owners in Hospet area; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of such firms and how much higher rates are paid to them?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The distance from the mines to the loading railway stations has, among other things, been kept in view always in fixing the procurement rates station-wise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Iron Ore

2406. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron ore exported from Bellary District in 1963-64;

(b) the quantity fixed for export from Bellary District during 1964-65;

(c) the basic rate given per ton of iron ore by the State Trading Corporation in 1963-64; and

(d) the rate settled between the mines owners and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation for 1964-65?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Statistics on the export of iron ore are not maintained district-wise.

(b) The targets for export are fixed port-wise and not district-wise.

(c) and (d). It is not in the public interest to disclose the information.

Industrial Project for Gas Production

2407. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to license any major industrial project for the production of gas generally and allied or ancillary industries in the remaining period of the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the capacity to be licensed, the location of such projects and the size of the capital outlay?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). It is not clear as to which particular gas is being referred to. In respect of industrial gases like oxygen and dissolved acetylene, however, it may be mentioned that sufficient capacity has already been licensed and for the present there is no scope for creating any additional capacity for these gases.

Coal Industry

2408. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Coal Producing Units which are going to form co-operatives is not adequate; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) There is no proposal in regard to coal producing units forming themselves into co-operatives.

(b) Does not arise.