

(c) the personnel and terms of reference of the Committee?

**The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Sub-Committee consists of the following members:

- (i) Shri Nagendra Bahadur—Iron & Steel Controller, Chairman.
- (ii) Dr. B. D. Kalelkar, Senior Industrial Adviser, D.G.T.D.
- (iii) One representative from each of the main producers.
- (iv) Four representatives of Indian Engineering Association to represent fabrication Industry.
- (v) One representative each of Railways, Central Design Bureau/HS—/C.W.P.C. and M/S. Dasture & Co. to represent the Designers.
- (vi) One representative of I.S.I.
- (vii) Executive Secretary, Joint Plant Committee.
- (viii) Shri M. M. Suri, Director, Central Mechanical and Engineering Research Institute.
- (ix) Shri A. C. Chatterjee, Joint Director, Ex-office Deputy Iron & Steel Controller—Secretary.

There are no formal terms of reference of the Committee. The Committee has been asked to examine in detail the recommendation contained in the report issued by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, for effecting economy in the consumption of Structural Steel.

#### Exploitation of Lignite near Bikaner

**1069. Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made regarding the negotiations with the Government of German Democratic Republic

about the exploitation of lignite near Bikaner in Rajasthan; and

(b) whether any plan has been made for the entire project?

**The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey):** (a) No firm negotiations were made for exploitation of lignite with the Government of German Democratic Republic.

(b) Yes, Sir. A Russian team of experts have submitted the report on open cast mining of lignite which is under consideration.

#### Import of Cotton

**1070. Shri R. Barna:  
Shri R. S. Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by Government regarding the issue of licences for the import of cotton to different mills in the country; and

(b) the names of the textile mills which have been granted import quotas against users' licences in the year 1965?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaif Qureshi):** (a) and (b). Import licences for foreign cotton are issued by the Joint Chief Controller of Imports & Exports, Bombay, to the cotton textile mills against the quotas allocated to them by the Textile Commissioner.

Quotas to Actual User Mills are given on the basis of past consumption. For this purpose the consumption of foreign cotton by each mill during the calendar year 1960 is taken as the basis. Mills which have started later have been allocated import quotas on the basis of consumption of foreign cotton in subsequent years.

Foreign cotton quotas are allocated also to the mills exporting cotton textiles and yarn on the basis of their exports. Mills retain and consume such cotton to the extent they can