

M/s. Graphite India Limited

3065. SHRI P. C. ADICHAN :
SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Graphite India Limited are the manufacturers in India in the field of graphite electrodes ;

(b) if so, their total production capacity and the country annual requirements for this item ; and

(c) whether Government are considering sanctioning of collaboration for manufacture of this item to other entrepreneur and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The capacity of the firm is 5,400 tonnes per annum and the country's current requirement also is of this order.

(c) One proposal is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Revision of Coal Prices

3066. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal-mine owners have asked for a certain price increase subsequent to the implementation of the Wage Board award ;

(b) if so, the extent of increase demanded and the increase granted by the Public Sector Power Generation Plants, Steel Plants and Railways ; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that increase of wages and increase in other costs without a corresponding increase in the prices have put the collieries in hardships and that many collieries find it difficult to fully implement the Wage Board award ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Coal Wage award implementation and decontrol of coal prices almost coincided. Price of coal subsequent to decontrol is

a matter to be mutually settled between the buyers and sellers. From 1.7.68, Railways have agreed to a price increase of Rs. 2/- per tonne of Selected Grades and Re. 1/- per tonne of Grade I in the case of coals of Bengal-Bihar and outlying fields of M.P., Maharashtra and Orissa. As regards supplies of Singareni round coal, a price increase of Rs. 1.15 per tonne has been agreed to. In the case of coking coal supplied to steel plants, coal washeries and cokeries, a price increase of Rs. 1.75 per tonne has also been agreed to. This is in accordance with the general policy that the entire impact of any increase in cost of production of coal should not be passed on to the consumer.

Import of Tractors

3067. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and the value of tractors imported by the State Trading Corporation, private parties and any other agency during the last three years, country-wise ;

(b) the value of spare parts for tractors imported during the same period, country-wise ;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of tractors have been lying idle for want of spare parts both with the Government agencies and the private individuals ;

(d) if so, the number of such tractors with the Government agencies and the private individuals as is known to Government separately ;

(e) whether it is also a fact that a large number of tractors have been scrapped but for want of imported spare parts ; and

(f) if so, the number of such tractors since Independence, the total value of such scrapped tractors and the foreign exchange spent thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—2480/68].