

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the total number of workers in the Delhi Division whose services as substitute mazdoors have not been taken into consideration?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

Low Temperature Carbonization Plants

1869. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the setting up of major low-temperature carbonisation plants to produce cheap smokeless coal for home use and briquetted coke for pig iron plants in the country;

(b) the sites selected for the purpose; and

(c) when they are likely to start functioning?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) and (b). Proposals for the establishment of low temperature carbonisation plants—one at Kothagudem in Andhra Pradesh and the other at Talcher in Orissa (as part of an Industrial Complex)—are under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission

1870. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations made by the Committee appointed to review the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(b) the steps taken to implement them?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):

(a) The Committee has not yet com-

pleted its work and the time for the submission of its report has also been extended upto 1st April, 1967.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Private Mines

1871. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 285 on the 5th August, 1966 and state whether Government have since finalised the proposal to give financial help to private mines for their development?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): The proposal to give financial help to private mines for their development has not yet been finalised.

Substitution of Cow-Dung by Soft-Coke

1872. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1409 on the 5th August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the Central Fuel Research Institute has since prepared Project Reports for conducting experiments for substitution of cow-dung by soft-coke; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure adequate and regular supply of soft coke to towns and villages so as to avoid cow dung being burnt as fuel?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government, however, has not yet received the Project Report.

(b) Relaxation of control on the distribution of soft coke liberalisation of licensing policy for opening of soft coke depots, emphasis on coal based industries, are some of the measures taken by the Government.