

Production and Export of Iron Ore

3422. SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the additional orders expected from the West Asian and East European countries for export of iron ore from India ;

(b) the steps taken to increase the production of iron ore to meet requirements of all foreign countries ; and

(c) the additional port facilities created to ship the ore from the different ports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) The East-European countries are likely to place orders for an additional 8 to 10 lakh tonnes of iron ore during 1970. There is no demand for iron ore in West Asian countries, so far.

(b) Development of two more iron ore mines, Bailadila Deposit No. 5 and Doni malai in the Bellary-Hospet area have been sanctioned. In addition further supplies would become available on account of Bailadila No 14 and Daitari achieving full production, and the normal expansion in the output from existing mines in Brajajmda and Bellary-Hospet area.

(c) The Draft Fourth Five Year Plan provides for (i) the completion of the mechanised iron ore berth at Haldia, (ii) construction of a deep draft outer Harbour at Vizag, (iii) provision of mechanised ore loading facility at the Madras Outer Harbour, (iv) modernisation of Murmagao Port through capital dredging and the provision of mechanical ore loading facility, and (v) improvements in the facilities at Paradeep to augment its ore handling capacity.

Purchasing of Foreign Cars for Official use

3423. SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :
SHRI YAJNA DATT
SHARMA :
SHRI JAI SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign make cars purchased by various Ministries and Departments of the Central Government for use as staff cars or for the official use of the

Ministers during the last three years, year-wise, together with the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon ;

(b) whether Government propose to ban totally the purchase of imported cars for official purposes ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) As already explained in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1942 on 31st July, 1968, instructions were issued in September, 1966 permitting each Minister/Independent Department to retain one large-sized post-1960 imported car. Small-sized imported cars were brought within the purview of these instructions in August, 1969. It was then decided that in future, each Ministry/independent Department may remain only one imported car, which may be either large-sized or small-sized, but any small-sized imported cars which have already been purchased may be retained. The number of imported post-1960 cars purchased during the last three years, namely, 1966, 1967 and 1968 was as under :

Year	Large-sized foreign made car purchased	Small-sized foreign made car purchased
1966	4	—
1967	2	2
1968	7	2
	13	2

As these cars were purchased through the State Trading Corporation, no foreign exchange was spent on them.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to change the present arrangements.

Shipment and promotion of Iron Ore Export by M. M. T. C. to Japan

3424. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some officials of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation visited Japan and some other countries during the month of November, 1969 to

finalise arrangements for the Indian Iron ore shipment and promote export of the same :

(b) if so, the name and number of officers who visited, together with the names of those countries alongwith the expenditure incurred as a result thereof : and

(c) how far they got success in their Mission ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Sarvshri R. R. Bahl, Chairman (as leader) and V. S. Bhatnagar, Divisional Manager (Sales), M. M. T. Co., left for Tokyo on 12.11.69 to negotiate the long term offers made to Japanese Steel Mills for sale of 218 million tons of iron ore over a period of fifteen years (1970-84).

The delegation also includes Sarvshri Bhagwan Singh and B. B. Engineer, Chairman and Director, respectively, of the National Mineral Development Corporation, Sarvshri Srinivasan and Agarwal, Managing Director and Director, respectively, of the Orissa Mining Corporation and Shri A. U. Sarma, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Transport.

The negotiations at Tokyo are still in progress. The results of the negotiations, and the expenditure incurred would, therefore, be known only on the return of the delegation.

Opening of Centres for Purchasing Jute in Tripura

3425. SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :
SHRI GANESH GHOSH :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :
SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government Purchase Centres opened in Tripura during the year 1969 to purchase Jute at minimum price fixed by Government ;

(b) if no such centre has been opened, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that jute was sold at Rs. 25.00 or Rs. 30.00 per maund in rural areas of Tripura ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) The State Trading Corporation which is in charge of price support operations of jute in the current season has opened 30 purchase centres in Tripura.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

सूती मिलों के उत्पादन में कमी

3426. श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या वंदेशिक व्यापार मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि सूती मिलों का उत्पादन घटता जा रहा है और उत्पादन लागत बढ़ती जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) इस स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वंदेशिक व्यापार मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री राम सेवक) : (क) वर्ष 1969 में उत्पादन लागत कुछ बढ़ गई है ।

(ख) उत्पादन में गिरावट कतिपय मिलों के अलाभप्रद कार्यचालन, हड़तालों, तालाबंदियों, कतिपय क्षेत्रों में कुछ दिनों के लिये अशान्ति-पूर्ण स्थिति होने तथा कतिपय क्षेत्रों में बिजली में कटौती के कारण हुई है ।

उत्पादन लागत में वृद्धि कच्चे माल के मूल्य बढ़ जाने तथा मजदूरी में वृद्धि के कारण हुई है ।

(ग) आशा है कि सामान्य स्थिति आ जाने पर उत्पादन का स्तर बढ़ जाएगा । सरकार उपयुक्त मामलों में बन्द मिलों के विषय में जांच कर के यह पता लगाएगी कि क्या उपयुक्त पूंजी निवेश द्वारा ऐसी मिलों को अर्थ-क्षम एककों के रूप में चलाया सम्भव है ।