

during the Fourth Plan for setting up of capacity of about 4 million tonnes towards the end of the Fifth Plan.

(b) The basis for such consideration is the projection of demand and the long gestation period required for bringing steel capacity into fruition. It takes nearly seven years, including the time taken for preparation of a Detailed Project Report, to commission a plant and another couple of years for achieving near rated production. It is therefore necessary to take action now to be able to meet the likely demand during the 5th plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Unused Steel Scrap lying in Steel Plants

2329. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of STEEL & HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of steel scrap lying undisposed of at the three steel plants viz., Rourkela, Durgapur and Bhilai with the value thereof ;

(b) for how long it has been lying there; and

(c) the quantity that has deteriorated and the amount of loss suffered thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL & HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Asoka Mehta Committee Report on Khadi and Village Industries

2330. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1210 on the 29th July, 1969 regarding the Asoka Mehta Committee report on Khadi and Village Industries and state ;

(a) whether the replies of all State Governments have been received ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government on the report ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The comments of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are still awaited. The recommendations of the Committee are being examined in the light of the replies of State Governments already received.

Decision on Recommendations of Elayaperumal Committee

2331. SHRI HEM RAJ :
SHRI SIDDAYYA :
SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA :
SHRI J. AHMED :
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5003 on the 23rd December, 1969 regarding decision on recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee and state :

(a) whether the replies of all the State Governments and the Union Territories have been received and, if so, the decision taken thereon ; and

(b) the proposal of Government to implement the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. (SHRIMATI) PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) The major recommendations of this Committee were discussed at a conference of State Ministers in charge of Backward Classes Welfare on the 29th January 1970. Considered views of the State Governments on some of the main recommendations like setting up of Taluka Boards etc. are still awaited.

The Department of Social Welfare proposes to introduce a bill during the current session to amend the provisions of the existing Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, to provide for enhanced punishment and for making an offence non-compoundable.