

states. The matter is under consideration.

(b) and (c). It is somewhat premature to spell out at this stage the details of the project which will have to be determined after the pilot plant investigations and other tests have been carried out.

Export of Coal to Japan

*1164. **Shri S. K. Tapuriah:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to export of coal to Japan and other neighbouring countries;

(b) whether Government are considering a proposal to export limited quantity of coking coal to Japan during 1967-68;

(c) the stage at which the negotiations are going on with the prospective importers;

(d) whether the MMTC alone is authorised to export coking coal or the private producers are also allowed to explore possibilities and export coking coal; and

(e) the incentive/facilities being offered for encouraging export of coking coal?

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

(a) At present coal is exported to Burma and Ceylon only. The possibilities of exporting Indian coal to other countries, including Japan and Hong Kong, are being explored.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Specifications, price indications and samples of Indian coking coal have been given to some Japanese firms whose reactions are awaited.

(d) and (e). Export of coking coal is canalised through the M.M.T.C. The Corporation has suggested a floor price for different grades of coal and have allowed Indian exporters to secure business for exports, assuring that in case they are able to secure

prices higher than the floor price fixed by the Corporation, the benefit of such higher price would go to them.

Over stocking of Cotton by Birla Group of Cotton Mills

*1167. **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**
Shri Suraj Bhan:
Shri P. M. Sayeed:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Birla group of Cotton Mills have overstocked raw cotton;

(b) if so, whether regulations have been violated in this respect;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Birla Cotton Mill at Gwalior purposely burnt cotton stock worth ten lakhs of rupees a few hours before the recent raid by the Enforcement Branch; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this matter?

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

(a) and (b). A few of the cotton mills belonging to Birla Group are reported to have stocked cotton slightly in excess of the permitted level.

(c) and (d). It is reported that fire broke out in J.C. Mills, Gwalior, at 12.30 p.m. on 16th June, 1967 as a result of which about 1670 bales of cotton were partially damaged. Loss on account of fire is estimated at Rs. 4 lakhs. The cause of fire is not yet known.

India Electric Works, Calcutta

*1168. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Ganesh Ghosh:
Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:
Shri George Fernandes:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri R. Barua:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the India Electric Works, Calcutta has declared a closure;

(b) whether this concern was taken over by Government;

(c) if so, the reason for this closure;

(d) whether the Government of West Bengal have asked the Central Government for some financial help to take over this concern permanently; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government of West Bengal have not so far communicated their decision to take over this concern.

(e) Does not arise.

रोम में 'इंडिया बोक'

* 1169. श्री जे० एच० पटेल :

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रोम स्थित हमारे दूतावास द्वारा 'भारत सप्ताह' मनाने के लिये तैयारियां की जा रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त सप्ताह मनाने का उद्देश्य क्या है और उस सप्ताह में की जाने वाली प्रस्तावित कार्यवाहियों का व्योरा क्या है; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उस सप्ताह में इटली में बनी सुगंधित वस्तुओं के विक्रय को लोक प्रिय बनाने के लिये, जिसका भारत के साथ कोई विशेष सम्बन्ध नहीं है, प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शक्ती कुरेशी) : (क) भारत सप्ताह 26 जून से 2 जुलाई तक मनाया गया था।

(ख) उसका मुख्य उद्देश्य अपने कुछ निर्यात उत्पादों जैसे कि चाय, काजू, आम, केले, हस्तशिल्प और हथकरघा उत्पादों का संवर्द्धन तथा सैलानियों को भारत भ्रमण के लिये प्रोत्साहित करना था।

सप्ताह के दौरान भारतीय हस्तशिल्प तथा हथकरघा उत्पादों आदि का प्रदर्शन 80 सजावट के खानों में किया गया तथा बिक्री केन्द्रों में काफी बारों में भारतीय तैयार चाय तथा नमकीन काजू ग्राहकों को परोसी गई। एक विशेष ब्रांड की भारतीय चाय तथा नमकीन काजू भी बेची गयी।

(ग) भारत सप्ताह समारोह के माध्यम से भारतीय वस्तुओं का प्रचार करने तथा उन्हें लोक प्रिय बनाने के लिये भारतीय नाम वाले इटली के इत्र (परफ्यूम) की बिक्री बढ़ाने के अवसर का लाभ उठाया गया।

Export of Human Hair

*1170. **Shri George Fernandes:**
Shri J. H. Patel: