

(iv) A proposal is under consideration of Department of Defence Production for setting up of a unit for the manufacture of Marine Diesel Engines in the area of H.E.C. Complex so that the additional load from this unit could be taken in the HEC (v) A team of Soviet experts is arriving shortly to advise on the possibilities of diversification and manufacture of equipment to cater to outside markets.

(b) (i) Manufacture of well Drilling rigs and Continuous Casting machines are now included in the manufacturing programme of Heavy Machine Building Plant. (ii) A proposal for the manufacture of Gas Cylinders and Axle Tubes in the plant is under consideration. (iii) Additional lines of production in the Foundry Forge Plant are being taken up to utilise surplus capacity in future years, such as production of crankshafts, for diesel locomotive works, components for marine diesel engines, spun pipe moulds, fraction gear and some items of defence equipments. Steps have been taken to develop prototype of Roll Furning lathes and deep hole boring machines with a view to diversify production in Heavy Machine Tools Plant.

(c) Efforts of exports are being made through the assistance of our Commercial Counsellors abroad. Officers of the Company had been to Middle East Countries, Australia, Newzealand, South Vietnam, Singapore and Malaysia for export promotion.

Import of Jute from Thailand

*16. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1466 on the 28th July, 1967 regarding import of Jute from Thailand and state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has since investigated into the complaints regarding the import of Jute from Thailand;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The C.B.I. was investigating one specific case and the investigation has been completed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The final decision on the report is expected within a short time.

Amalgamation of Small Coal Mines

*17. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL:
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM:
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for compulsory amalgamation of small coal mines; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) and (b). In order to exploit the available resources in the best possible manner and with a view to having a scientific and rational production pattern, the question whether there should be compulsory amalgamation of small and uneconomic coal mines is under examination of the Government.

Recession in Industries

*18. SHRI ESWARA REDDY:
SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA:
SHRI R. BARUA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2629 on the 1st December, 1967 and state:

(a) the further steps which have been taken to fight recession in industries;