

Tractor Factory in U.P.

*264. Shri Umanath:
Shri Satya Narain Singh:
Shrimati Suseela Gopalan:
Shri E. K. Nayanar:

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

(a) whether it was decided earlier to construct a Tractor Factory at Jivanathpur near Mughalsarai in U.P.;

(b) if so, when the construction work is likely to start;

(c) the total estimated cost of the project;

(d) whether Government are considering a proposal to shift the factory site to some other place; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). It had been proposed to establish a public sector project for the manufacture of agricultural tractors and implements during the 4th Five-Year Plan at Ramnagar in Varanasi District, U.P. subject to a final decision about the implementation of the Project itself after the receipt of the techno-economic feasibility study report from M/s. Motokov of Czechoslovakia. The first part of this Report containing a study of the feasibility and economics of the Project was received on 22nd May, 1967 and is presently under examination. A decision on the Project will be taken after the Report has been examined in detail.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Export duty on Jute and Tea

*265. Shri Lita-Devi Kotaki:
Shri N. B. Lawar:
Shri Shri Gopal Saboo:

Shri Beni Shanker Sharma:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions for the reduction in export duty on jute, tea and other like items to boost up export;

(b) whether the suggestion has also been received that sealed tenders be introduced in Western Europe in respect of Indian coffee instead of open auction; and

(c) the decision of Government thereon?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A suggestion has been received by the Coffee Board for introduction of sealed tender system for all countries. This suggestion will be considered by the Board's Marketing Committee at its next meeting to be held shortly.

(c) Export duties on Jute, Tea, Manganese and Iron Ores (fines) have been reduced in the Budget proposals which are already before the House. The export duty on raw wool was also reduced on the 9th May, 1967. No reduction has been made this year, so far, in the case of any other commodity. The suggestion referred to in part (b) above will be considered on receipt of the recommendations from the Coffee Board.

C. I. Sleepers

*266. Shri A. B. Vajpayee:
Shri N. S. Sharma:
Shri Shri Gopal Saboo:
Shri Brij Bhushan Lal:
Shri Sharda Nand:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry placed orders on a firm for the manufacture and supply of 14,000 tons of C. I. sleepers in 1966;

(b) whether the quantity of pig iron issued to the contractors was much in excess of what was agreed to;

(c) whether this job was carried out by the contractors in a period spread over 7 years;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Railways neither recovered the excess pig iron nor they realised any damages from the firm;

(e) if so, whether any investigation has been conducted in this respect; and

(f) if so, the result thereof and the total loss suffered by the Railways on this deal?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The firm had been issued 870 tons of pig iron in excess, but on payment of its full cost, as the cost of the pig iron against the contract was to be borne by the firm.

(c) No, Sir. It was completed in a period of less than two years from the time the contract was awarded.

(d) No, Sir. This excess was adjusted against a subsequent order placed in 1961 by issuing correspondingly less pig iron against that order.

(e) and (f). Special investigations were instituted by the Railway when the excess issue came to its notice. This excess was adjusted against a subsequent order by issuing correspondingly less pig iron against that order. Pig iron continued to be a controlled commodity in 1961 also and there was no difference in controlled price between 1957 and 1961.

Mining of Tungsten in Rajasthan

*267. Shri Deven Sen: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tungsten is being mined by the Government

of Rajasthan/or a Company controlled by that Government for the past few years;

(b) if so, the rates at which the output was sold to private parties from time to time;

(c) whether this was ever sold to the Central Government or their Defence Establishments;

(d) if so, the quantity and rates thereof; and

(e) the reasons for the difference in prices charged from private parties and the prices charged from Government?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Tungsten is mined by the Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Rajasthan.

(b) The selling rates per tonne were Rs. 9,000 during 9th August, 1963 to 26th August, 1965, Rs. 13,500 during 27th August, 1965 to 20th May, 1966, Rs. 17,200 during 21st May, 1966 to 26th February, 1967 and Rs. 24,000 from 27th February, 1967 onwards.

(c) and (d). During the period 27th August, 1965 to 20th May, 1966, 6.25 tonnes were sold to Central Government Departments at Rs. 13,500 per tonne.

(e) There is no difference in the selling price of tungsten concentrates to private parties and Government Departments, during the same period of time.

Demand and Production of Aluminium

*268. Shri Nihal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand for aluminium during the next 4 years and the production targets fixed for it;