

(b) whether any programme for the substitution of copper by aluminium to be used by electrical, cable and other industries is contemplated; and

(c) the break-up of the production envisaged in the public and private sectors?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) The demand for aluminium by 1970-71 has been estimated at 3,30,000 tonnes per annum (including about 30,000 tonnes for export). The production targets were also fixed at the same level but subsequently revised to 2,63,300 tonnes per annum. The demand and production targets are under further review taking in account possible reduction of demand in aluminium consuming and other industries.

(b) To a large extent in the cable industry copper has been substituted by aluminium. In addition, efforts are also being made to develop aluminium based alloys and substitution of aluminium in the place of other non-ferrous metals like copper, zinc and lead.

(c) It is expected that by 1970-71 production in the private and public sectors will be 2,38,300 and 25,000 tonnes respectively.

Prices of Yarn

*269. Shri M. S. Murlhi: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ad-hoc committee consisting of the representatives of textile mills, handloom and powerloom organisations is able to keep down the prices of yarn at reasonable level; and

(b) the percentage of price fall or price-rise on various counts of yarn after the appointment of this ad-hoc committee?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Ramakrishna Singh): (a) and (b). There is no control on the prices of cotton yarn. Following reports of rise in

price of yarn a meeting was held in Bombay on 7th September, 1966 with representatives of the textile mills, handloom and powerloom organisations, the yarn trade and State Governments. It was agreed at this meeting to set up an ad hoc committee of representatives of the textile industry, handloom and powerloom organisations, State Governments and Textile Commissioner in order to recommend the guide line for keeping the prices of yarn at reasonable level. The Committee by itself has not been able to keep down the prices of yarn as it had no control on the main factors leading to the rise in price of yarn namely (a) rise in price of cotton and (b) curtailment of machine activity due to shortage of cotton.

The average percentage rise/fall in the market prices of key counts of cotton yarn in the Coimbatore market since 7th September, 1966 upto May 19, 1967 is given below:—

Counts :

10s	+	0.0%
20s	+	14.2%
30s	+	13.4%
40s	+	12.9%
60s Indian carded	-	5.1%
60s Indian Combed	+	2.1%
80s Egyptian carded	+	15.1%
80s Egyptian combed	+	21.7%
100s Carded	+	5.5%
100s Combed	-	6.2%

Natural Soft Coke

*270. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Geological Survey of India has indicated that over 200 Million tons of natural soft coke exists in India, which can be sold cheaper than manufactured soft coke;

(b) if so, whether any attempt has been made to explore it; and

(c) whether it has an adequate strength to withstand size degradation in handling?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During the current field season (1966-67), the Geological Survey of India has undertaken investigations to delineate the different horizons of natural soft coke in the Jharia coalfields and estimate the reserves. The work is expected to be extended to other coalfields if the results of the present investigations are promising.

(c) Information on this point is being collected.

Railway Stations on M.G. Line between Himmatnagar and Udaipur

1251. Shri C. O. Desai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway Stations on the Metre Gauge line between Himmatnagar and Udaipur and the towns or big villages through which the railway line passes and the distance between the railway station and the said villages or towns;

(b) whether it is a fact that the railway line passes through the big town of Tintoi but the railway station is six miles away and is called Shamlaji Road from where no road transport is available to passengers; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to establish railway station in the village limit of Tintoi through which the railway line passes?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) The names of Railway stations situated between Himmatnagar and Udaipur line are as follows:—

- (1) Himmatnagar.
- (2) Viravada.
- (3) Raighad Road.

- (4) Sunak.
- (5) Samlaji Road.
- (6) Lusadia.
- (7) Jagabar.
- (8) Bechiwara.
- (9) Shri Bhavanchh.
- (10) Dungarpur.
- (11) Kotana.
- (12) Rakhabdeo Road.
- (13) Semari.
- (14) Surkhandka Khara.
- (15) Jayasamand Road.
- (16) Padla.
- (17) Zavar.
- (18) Kharwachanda.
- (19) Umra.
- (20) Udaipur City.

There are more than 600 villages or towns falling within the area served by Himmatnagar-Udaipur line. However, there are only 4 towns or big villages having population of over 5,000, namely, Himmatnagar, Dungarpur, Salambar and Udaipur. The distances between the Railway stations and the villages or towns served are not readily available.

(b) The Railway line passes between Tintoi and Samlaji villages. The distance between Samlaji Road station and Tintoi village is only 2 miles.

(c) No.

Board of Companies in Public Sector

1252. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri M. Amersoy:
Shri Virendrakumar Shah:

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

(a) the policy of Government about the appointment of Chairmen, Managing Directors and Directors on the Board of Companies in the Public Sector;