

Committee report as soon as it is ready. Actually speaking, the main bottleneck is transport. The development of mines is proceeding quite satisfactorily; various States have appointed Mineral Development Boards and the private sector is also going ahead with the iron ore mines. But the real bottleneck is transport.

Shri Ranga: This has been an old complaint for the last 5 or 6 years. May I know what special steps Government are taking, if necessary by themselves giving some special subventions to the State Governments in order to develop road communication?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For road transport, very liberal grants are being given. In Mysore State, in areas connecting Pondicherry and also in areas connecting Bailadella, road development is going apace. But roads cannot carry long-distance haulage beyond 100 miles. The real solution would be to have broad-gauge railway lines, electric and diesel locomotives and trains, pack wagons, pack trains, etc. All that is being considered.

Manufacture of leaf springs

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*357. { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
 Shri Kapur Singh:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether raw material necessary for leaf springs manufacture is in short supply;

(b) the reasons for creating new manufacturing capacity when adequate resources are not available; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken to explore fully the avenues for the manufacture of leaf springs in the private sector?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 2193 (aj) LS—2

1951 are not being granted for this item at present.

(c) Automobile leaf spring are being produced at present only in the private sector, and the available capacity is being fully utilised consistent with the availability of foreign exchange.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इसमें से कितना कोटा प्राइवेट कंसर्न्स को और कितना गवर्नमेंट कंसर्न्स को दिया जायेगा ?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Just now production takes place only in private sector. A licence has been given to the Maharashtra State Transport Undertaking but that has not gone into production.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार ने कोई ऐसी टीम मुकरर की है जो यह पता लगाये कि इसके लिये कितना रा मैटीरियल अवेलेबल होगा ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : रा मैटीरियल के लिये तो कोई चीज नहीं है, लेकिन इस की कितनी खपत होगी इसके बारे में सरकार के पास जानकारी जरूर है ।

Shri Mansinh P. Patel: May I know whether Government is aware that after the emergency has been declared, there is a 30 per cent rise in the price of leaf springs?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We are not aware of this?

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know if the capacity for manufacturing these leaf springs is fully utilised at the moment in the different States?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I do not think the capacity is being fully utilised. That is because raw materials have got to be imported and the import is governed by the foreign exchange availability.