

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the requirements of foreign markets and competitive prices of such machinery?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The production level of coal mining machinery so far reached is hardly sufficient for the country's requirements. Steps have been taken to increase the capacity. The requirements of foreign markets etc. will be assessed after production has been stepped up adequately.

Public Sector Undertakings

*703. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state in how many cases techno-economic studies have been carried out in respect of public sector undertakings by the Indian agencies and with what results?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-4879/65].

Export of Coal to Pakistan

*705. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal is being supplied to Pakistan;

(b) if so, on what basis; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah) (a) to (c). Under the provisions of the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement of 1st September, 1963, India had agreed to supply 1.30 lakh tons of coal per month to Pakistan against free foreign exchange. Later, under the two Rice deals concluded with Pakistan in July, 1964 and January 1965, it was agreed that coal would be supplied to that country against a proportion of the value of rice supplied by Pakistan to India. It is in pursuance of these arrangements that coal was being exported to

Pakistan till recently. However, exports of all commodities including coal from India to Pakistan have been prohibited with effect from 10th September, 1965.

Heavy Electricals Project, Ranipur

*706. { Shri Ramanand Shastri:
Shri Ansar Harvani:
Shri Sheo Narain:
Shri K. C. Sharma:
Shri R. S. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of bags of cement became solid lumps like stone in the Heavy Electricals Project, Ranipur (Hardwar);

(b) if so, the number of bags thus spoiled and the amount of loss suffered on this account;

(c) whether the matter has been investigated;

(d) if so, the persons found responsible for this and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to prevent such recurrences in future?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) Due to a sudden severe windstorm and rain on the 19th June 1964, some cement bags were damaged while being unloaded from the railway siding. Some bags were also damaged in the cement godown as a few sheets of the roof were blown off.

(b) 590 bags costing about Rs. 5350/-.

(c) to (e). This was investigated by a Committee of officers. No individual was found responsible, the damage and loss having been caused by a natural calamity.