

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** We cannot state what the attitude of the French Government may be. They have stated in the past that there should be a referendum on this issue and after that, the House will remember, we pointed out to them that their own activities there had made any fair referendum quite impossible. That is where the matter stands.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Are there still border incidents? Has the border patrol been strengthened to prevent such incidents?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** As I said, on the 21st February, there was a pretty serious incident on the border. But, otherwise, of late, there has been some little change for the better. In these areas our police force has been increased.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know whether migration of families from the French territories to India is still going on?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** We have no information.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know whether there were any cases of hooliganism when the preparation for the holding of the referendum was going on, and whether any persons had been arrested by the French Government for those acts of hooliganism?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The hon. Member is perhaps speaking of something that happened two years ago.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** When the preparation for the referendum was going on.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** There was no preparation for referendum going on.

**Shri Venkataraman:** Have the Government lodged any protests against such border incidents, and have they received any satisfactory answer from them?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** With regard to the previous incidents, we have of course made our protests both to the Government in Paris as well as to the Government in Pondicherry.

Several Hon. Members *rose—*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. This has been sufficiently answered. Next question.

#### WAGONS FOR TRANSPORT OF COAL

**\*446. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to a supplementary question raised on starred question No. 534 asked on the 21st November, 1952, and state the number of wagons allotted per day for the movement of coal from the coalfields for internal consumption in this country?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** An average of 3,474 wagons a day from all fields in 1952.

**Dr. Hari Mohan:** May I know whether any representation by the Indian Collieries Union has been received by the hon. Minister on this subject?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Regarding wagon supply? Various representations are being received from various associations, the Mining Federation and the Mining Association, about the transport position generally, at various times.

**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** What is the number of wagons demanded for the carriage of coal?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** For the current year?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** This supply of 3,474 wagons is against a demand of 4,622 wagons.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know whether in spite of the supply of these wagons, there has been any accumulation of coal near the colliery sites, and whether those accumulations are likely to be removed soon?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I think I have answered a similar question by the hon. Member on a previous occasion, and I answered at that time that the pit-head stocks are gradually going down.

#### PROTO-TYPE APPLICATION OF WROUGHT TITANIUM AND ITS ALLOYS

**\*447. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Imperial Chemical Industries in India have made any attempts towards the development of proto-type applications of wrought titanium and its alloys in the engineering and the aero-engineering fields;

(b) whether any plant has been installed; and

(c) if so, the experiments done so far and their results?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Government have no information.

(b) and (c). The National Metallurgical Laboratory is understood to be making some experiments.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the Imperial Chemical Industries has any experimental plant at present?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The Government have no information.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know what was the reason for the closing down of the Indian Titanium Factory at Trivandrum last year?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Because of lack of sale of the products manufactured by the factory, namely titanium dioxide.

**Shri Matthen:** Have the Government been negotiating with the national head of the U.S.A. for the establishment of a factory for the manufacture of titanium or titanium products?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have no information.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM WESTERN GERMANY

\*448. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the technical assistance received for the development of Indian Industries from Western Germany since the renewal of trade arrangements with that country?

(b) To which currency group does Western Germany belong at present?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) The trade arrangement with Western Germany does not provide for any specified technical assistance but mentions in a general way, that the German Authorities will use their good offices so that German companies, firms and industrialists may place their experience at the disposal of the Indian Government, and Indian Industries in the field. A statement showing some of the forms of technical assistance received from Western Germany is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 3.]

(b) Soft currency.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the statement supplied, I find that in Group B, from 1st Novem-

ber 1951 to 31st October, 1952, nine candidates were sent to Western Germany for training in German industries. May I know in which industries these men have been trained, and whether they have come back and started any industry?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Notice, Sir.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** I find from the statement that 23 candidates had been sent for studies in German universities and institutions. May I know whether they have been sent for general education or any technical education?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am afraid I have to ask for notice.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That does not arise out of this, I think.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** The statement contains this

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The statement may contain many things. Hereafter hon. Members will confine themselves in their supplementaries only to the questions asked.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** With reference to part (b), may I know whether there is any territorial discrimination against other countries which belong to the same currency group as we do?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I cannot understand the import of the question.

#### TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH CHINA AND U. S. S. R.

\*449. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government of India to negotiate a long-term trade agreement with the Peoples Republic of China and the Soviet Union?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** No steps have been taken by the Government of India to negotiate a long-term trade agreement either with the Peoples' Republic of China or with the Soviet Union, as it is the Government's view that, since their trade policies are multilateral and non-destinational, conclusion of specific trade agreements is not necessary to facilitate the smooth flow of trade. Lack of a trade agreement with the countries in question has not stood in the way of Government obtaining their requirements from China and the U.S.S.R. under barter or cash transactions or in the way of private trade generally.