

ZINC SMELTING PLANT

*757. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that zinc ore from India is exported to Belgium as there is no zinc smelting plant in the country;

(b) whether the Central Zinc Committee have recommended the installation of a zinc plant in India; and

(c) if so, when the proposed plant will be installed?

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

(a) No, Sir. Zinc concentrates have been exported in the past to Holland, France and Germany for processing.

(b) The Committee has recommended the establishment of a zinc smelter but only after detailed investigations have been conducted.

(c) The matter is now under consideration of Government.

Shri Gidwani: May I know, Sir, what is the quantity of zinc concentrates exported?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Well, Sir, I have got the total, I haven't got the break-up.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, what is the annual requirement of metallic zinc for Indian industries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I also know whether, in view of the tall claims made as to the availability of cheap electricity, Government have considered the possibility of installing a plant for making metallic zinc by the electrolytic process?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think, Sir, Government have any such project under consideration nor do I think the Government have made any tall claims.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know, Sir, whether any zinc processing is carried

out by the Indian Copper Corporation at Moubhandar?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice, Sir.

Sari Heda: May I know, Sir, whether Government are considering starting their own plant or inviting the private Sector to take it up?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, the matter is under consideration. I am not able to indicate now whether the plant will be a government-owned one or one in which Government will have a share or whether it will be entirely privately owned.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know, Sir, the total quantity sent to France, Holland and other countries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has not got the figures about the quantity sent to France, Holland etc.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I said, Sir, I have not got the break-up of the figures. The total for 1952 is 4,550 tons.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have in view any particular type of plant to be installed for this purpose?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, when a matter is under consideration information, particularly of the nature asked by the hon. Member is rather difficult to give.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I asked whether they have it in view

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has not got it. The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

NATIONAL EXTENSION SERVICE IN PUNJAB

*745. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) what area of the Punjab will be covered by the National Extension Service; and

(b) whether it is proposed to include the backward districts of Hoshiarpur, Kangra and Gurdaspur in the Scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Selection of areas for National Extension Service Blocks will be made on the basis of proposals which are awaited from the State Government.

CLAIMS IN REGARD TO JAPANESE PROPERTIES IN INDIA

***758. Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many applications for claims by Indians in accordance with article 8(a) of the Peace Treaty between India and Japan have been received as yet by the Custodian of Enemy Property at Bombay?

(b) Is there any time-limit for the submission of such claims?

(c) Will those Indians who submitted their claims long before or who made applications to any concerned representatives abroad have to re-notify their claims?

(d) When will the claims applications be dealt with?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 644.

(b) No time-limit has been prescribed in the Peace Treaty for the submission of such claims, but on administrative grounds Government have fixed 31st December, 1953 as the last date upto which applications will be received by the Custodian of Enemy Property, Bombay.

(c) Yes.

(d) Steps are being taken to scrutinize the applications as and when they are received, but their submission to the Japanese authorities will have to await the expiry of the last date referred to in my reply to part (b) above.

COAL WASHERIES

***759. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of washed and un-

washed coal supplied to the foreign countries in 1952-53;

(b) the market, where only washed coal is in demand;

(c) whether Government propose to set up their own Central coal washeries; and

(d) if so, (i) the time, (ii) the site, and (iii) the cost of their setting up?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No washed coal was supplied. The quantity of unwashed coal supplied is approximately 2,925,500 tons. Information available to Government does not disclose any country enquiring for washed coal exclusively.

(b) Washed coal is in demand in Japan, Australia and Ceylon, but unwashed coal also is in demand in these countries.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

TEXTILE CONTROL COMMITTEE

***760. Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a meeting of the Textile Control Committee was held in Bombay on the 15th June, 1953, under the Chairmanship of Shri Morarji Desai?

(b) What were the recommendations made by the Committee?

(c) Have Government considered the recommendations?

(d) If so, what is their decision about them?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee were:

(i) Control over cloth and yarn should be removed;

(ii) The number of returns at present submitted by the Mills to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, should be reduced;