

Hindustan Steel Ltd.

1361. **Shri F. G. Deb.** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rates of compensation recommended by the Government of India for the acquisition of lands at Rourkela for the construction of the Hindustan Steel Ltd.;

(b) the rates actually fixed by the Hindustan Steel Ltd. for the above purpose;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mukerjee Report of 1936 has been taken into consideration for the above fixation of rates; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The Government of India did not recommend any rates of compensation for the acquisition of the lands in question

(b) The rates of compensation for the different classes of lands (acquired at Rourkela) as fixed by the Government of Orissa are as under:—

1. Bhal	Rs. 900/- per acre
2. Berna	Rs. 600/- " "
3. Barchha	Rs. 748/- " "
4. Mal	Rs. 401/- " "
5. Goda	Rs. 200/- " "
6. Kudar	Rs. 227/- " "
7. Gharbari	Rs. 227/- " "

(c) and (d). We are not aware whether or not "Mukerjee Report of 1936" was taken into consideration by the special land acquisition officer appointed by the Government of Orissa for fixing the amounts of compensation for the lands. The market value of the land plus 15% solatium for the compulsory nature of the acquisition and a certain multiple of the deduced rent plus 15% solatium were the basis for fixing the compensation.

Employment Position in Laccadive Islands

1362. **Shri Nallakoya:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for improving the employment position in Laccadive, Minicoy and Amnidivi islands; and

(b) the progress of the scheme undertaken in this connection?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The schemes for the development of these islands including those which will improve the employment position are at present under consideration and a Five Year Plan for these Islands will be finalised shortly. However 21 islanders have already been given employment under medical, educational and agricultural schemes, since these islands came under Central Administration.

Silver Loan

1363. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how much of the U. S. Silver Loan has been returned so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Against the total quantity of 172.5 million ounces of fine silver, which the Government of India have to return to the Government of the U. S. A., they have so far shipped about 49.1 million ounces of fine silver in the form of silver bars and have handed over to the U. S. Government, through their Embassy in New Delhi, by means of exchange of letters, about 122.2 million ounces of fine silver in the form of quaternary alloy silver coins and bars at the places in India where they lie.

Assets of Ex-Rulers

1364. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total assets in sterling and/or foreign currencies held by the former rulers of the Indian States;