

SHRI P. C. SETHI: The Committee has up till now approved of 52 proposals covering 106 collieries.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether this Committee is a permanent committee or it is an *ad hoc* committee for some time?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Originally the Committee was appointed for one year. Later on, its period was extended and now its time will expire in February, 1965.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know, Sir, whether proposals have been made to amalgamate collieries producing high grade coal also, or the proposals relate only to collieries producing low grade coal?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: This amalgamation arises only with regard to the collieries in the Bengal, Bihar and Jharia coalfields.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया:  
क्या श्रीमान यह बतलायेंगे कि जो छोटे उत्पादक वे लाभदायक दृष्टि से उत्पादन नहीं कर सकते तो वह पिट्स खत्म हो जाते हैं जो देश के लिये हानिकारक है, तो ऐसी स्थिति में ऐसे खदानों का कोयला मिलता रहे और ये चालू रहें इसके लिये क्या किया गया है ?

श्री पी० सी० सेठी : खदान तो अभी चल रहे हैं लेकिन चूँकि वे अभी अनइकानामिक हैं इसलिये उनको अमलगमेट कर रहे हैं ।

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know the number of collieries that are already amalgamated as a result of the proposals made and in how many companies or collieries they are amalgamated?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I have already informed that the Committee has up till now approved 52 proposals consisting of 106 collieries and actually amalgamation has taken place in respect of 36 groups comprising 76 collieries.

#### COAL FOR THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY

\*361. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Southern Railway are still drawing their coal requirements from Bihar/Bengal coalfields even though the transport position has considerably eased; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to draw their entire coal requirements from Singareni Collieries and thereby reduce the cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Bulk of the Selected grades and part of grade I coals required for the Southern Railway, are procured from the Bengal & Bihar coalfields. Supplies from the nearer outlying coalfields are progressively being increased to the maximum extent of the availability of the requisite quality of coal from these coalfields.

(b) No, Sir. Apart from the production of the Singareni coalfields not being adequate to meet the entire requirements of the Southern Railway, selected grades of coal which are not produced in these coalfields will continue to be supplied from the Bengal and Bihar coalfields.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: In view of the fact that second grade coal is now being used for Railway consumption, which coal is available at Singareni, and also in view of the fact that production has been recently slashed down because there is over production, may I know whether Government will take into consideration using more and more coal from Singareni for the Southern Railway so that the huge haulage can be avoided?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: We would like to do that. But even at present we are purchasing 78 per cent of the steam coal that is produced in the Singareni coal fields. The total production of steam coal is 1,71,000

tonnes. Two and a half per cent, can be used by the collieries itself and we take 1,33,700 tonnes. That constitutes about 78 per cent. But better quality coal we shall have to get from the Bengal and Bihar coal fields because that is not produced here.

**SHRI D. THENGARI:** What is the quality of coal from the Wardha and Pench Valley? May I know whether it is suitable for the Railways?

**SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH:** From there also we take coal but the exact quantity I shall tell later. From the other fields, we take about 35,000 tonnes of coal and . . .

**SHRI P. K. KUMARAN:** May I know whether the coal from Bengal is moved by rail or by sea?

**SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH:** It is moved by rail sometimes when bottlenecks do occur but nothing like that has happened recently.

**SHRI T. V. ANANDAN:** The cost of production of coal does not arise as long as the Railway Ministry grants subsidy to the Southern Railway for carrying the coal. Is it not so?

**SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH:** That may be so, Sir. But the charges for the Bengal and Bihar coal fields are a little lower than the other coal fields. All taken together comes to about the same charge and therefore there is not much difference.

#### INDIAN HELP IN SETTING UP INDUSTRIES IN KENYA, UGANDA AND ZAMBIA

\*362. **SHRI RAM SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Governments of Kenya, Uganda and Zambia have approached Government of India for help in the setting up of industrial enterprises in their countries; and

(b) if so, the details of the help sought and the action contemplated by Government of India in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH):** (a) and (b) Proposals for Indian assistance in the industrialisation of friendly countries of Africa have been discussed whenever opportunities arose during visits of delegations to or from Africa. Sometimes, approaches have also been made by diplomatic representatives in either country.

Government of India's policy is to assist, within the resources available, the newly independent countries of Africa in their development programmes. Indian Government have agreed to co-operate with the Government of Uganda in the development of their sugar industry by establishing four sugar units in the coming year. A statement giving briefly the outlines of the project implemented with Indian collaboration is laid on the Table of the House. It will involve an investment of Rs. 6 crores on our side and Rs. 6 crores on the side of the Uganda Government. So far as Kenya and Zambia are concerned, some private Indian industrialists have shown interest in establishing industrial units there. One textile mill has been recently licensed for an Indian entrepreneur. The establishment of a textile mill in Kenya and an enamelware factory in Zambia have already been agreed to in principle.

#### STATEMENT

Under the Memorandum of an Agreement between the Government of India and the Uganda Government on collaboration for the development of Sugar Industry in Uganda, signed in Kampala on the 18th September, 1964, India has agreed to expand sugar production in Uganda by 100,000 tons by setting up about four factories. All the machinery and equipment besides materials required for factory buildings would be supplied from India. A Sugar Development Corporation will