

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER in THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) Yes.

(b) Attention is invited to the Statement laid on the Table of the Sabha, in reply to Starred Question No. 531 for 1st October, 1964, which contains the Government's views in the matter.

CIRCULAR RAILWAY IN CALCUTTA

278. SHRI SANKAR PRATAP SINGH DEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of West Bengal have sent any proposal for a circular railway in Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER in THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under examination.

FERTILISER UNIT AT NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION

279. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the original estimate of cost for fertiliser unit at Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) whether there has been any delay in executing the project as per the schedule; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the firm of Monte Catini demanded compensation from Government for the alleged delay

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) The original estimated cost of the Neyveli Fertiliser scheme was Rs. 26-10 crores.

(D) According to the original schedule prepared in 1956, the scheme was expected to commence production by December, 1961, but, there have been unavoidable delays. For example, the original scheme for producing ammonium sulphate based on Gypsum was modified and a decision was taken to produce Urea. The contracts for the supply of plant and equipment could be concluded only in October, 1959. There was also some set-back in the erection of the Plant owing to delay in the supply of indigenous steel for fabrication work. The various difficulties have been progressively overcome and production is scheduled to commence by February, 1966.

(c) Contracts have been concluded with M/s. Ansaldo of Italy and M/s. Pintsch Bamag Linde of Germany and not with Monte Catini. The contractors invoked the force majeure clause relating to delay in the supply of indigenous steel and claimed extra payment, which was mostly for meeting the increased expenditure on their technicians and other staff, owing to the extended period of the contracts.

280. [Transferred to the 2nd December, 1964].

CARBONISATION PLANT BASED ON SINGRAULI COAL

281. THAKUR BHANU PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering establishment of a low temperature carbonisation plant based on Singrauli coal; and

(b) if so, whether they are considering allocation of the plant in the Singrauli areas of Madhya Pradesh in the light of their decision regarding integrated development of resources in Siddha district which covers the Singrauli area?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) and (b) The possibility of setting up a low temperature carbonisation plant based on Singrauli coal is under examination. Bulk samples of coal have been sent to the Central Fuel Research Institute for laboratory tests. It is too early to state what the final outcome in regard to this project would be.

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

282. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the basis required for causing a geological survey of a region in a State; and
- (b) the regions in each State in which such a survey has been carried out or has been undertaken till now?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) : (a) and (b) Detailed information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### REPORT OF ANGLo-AMERICAN CONSORTIUM REGARDING FIFTH STEEL PLANT

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: SHRI SANKAR PRATAP SINGH DEV:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the report of the Anglo-American consortium regarding the fifth steel plant in the public sector, has been received by Government; and
- (b) if so, what are its main recommendations and what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) and (b) Discussions have been held with the members of the Anglo American Consortium who visited

India recently to explore the possibilities of their assisting in the construction and financing of the fifth steel works in the public sector. It is proposed to request them to consider the feasibility reports already available for different locations and to recommend from amongst them at least two suitable sites where they would be prepared to finance the establishment of a plant, so as to enable the Government of India to take a final decision on the location of a new integrated steel works.

#### EXPENSES ON AND INCOME FROM THE REST HOUSE AT RAMLING ON THE CENTRAL RAILWAY

284. SHRI U. S. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what were the annual expenses\* for maintenance of the rest house at Ramling on the Central Railway from 1961 to 1963;
- (b) what income was recovered during the period; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal under consideration for the supply of water to the rest house?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) The average expenses for maintenance of the rest house have been Rs. 1,440 per annum during these three years.

(b) The income for occupation of the rest house is only from the outsiders, as Railway staff occupying the rest house on duty are not required to pay. During the three years under reference the rest house was occupied for 43 days by the outsiders giving a revenue of Rs. 189.

(c) The rest house is at present supplied with water when the rest house is occupied. There is no proposal to modify the present arrangements of water supply.