

INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether the recommendation made by Solveen Committee on Rourkela Steel Plant in paragraph 1.5 at page 10 of their report about the recruitment of German Technical personnel to assure the economic working of the Plant, has been implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Yes, Sir, with some modifications to suit local conditions.

SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: May I know the number of technical personnel that has been recommended by the Solveen Committee? Has it been carried out partially or fully?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The recommendation was that we should recruit 9 German technicians. After discussion we reduced it to 6, and those 6 have already been recruited and they are working now.

SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: May I know whether the appointment of the Blast Furnace Superintendent has been carried out?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: No. We have appointed only: Engineer 1, Foreman 1 and Assistant Foremen 4; on the whole 6

SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY: According to the recommendation the Blast Furnace Superintendent should have been in charge of repairing of Blast Furnace No. 1. If that appointment has not been effected, may I know whether any other arrangement has been made to look after the repairing of Blast Furnace No. 1?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Blast Furnace No. 1 was repaired by Indian personnel, and it has been found that it has been successfully done.

†LOSS DUE TO FLOODS IN THE COUNTRY

*48. SHRI BANSI LAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the amount of loss incurred by public and Government during the recent floods in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Full assessment of loss incurred by public and Government during the recent floods in the country has not yet been made by the State Governments. However, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when available.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know whether this is the state of things in every State or whether certain States have not paid all the amounts?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Whenever there are natural calamities, it is for the Government to take action. The Central Government also comes into the picture for making grants.

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN DELHI

*248. SHRI J. S. PILLAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state how many of the Higher Secondary Schools in Delhi are without playgrounds?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): 166.

SHRI J. S. PILLAI: Out of the 166, may I know how many are Government Higher Secondary Schools?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: do not have the break-up with me.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know whether Government have given any assistance to those schools for providing game facilities to the students?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: This question does not arise out of this question.

†Transferred from the 8th November, 1962.

This is a question with regard to playgrounds.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Minister said they have not got any playgrounds. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government have given any assistance to those schools to acquire lands so that they can be utilised as playgrounds, so that the schools can provide game facilities to the students.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The difficulty in Delhi is acute shortage of playground sites. Unfortunately, the whole of Delhi has grown as if there was no need of any playgrounds for children. However, Government are making various efforts to provide these playgrounds. Recently, the local bodies have made playgrounds available for school children for purposes of sport activities, and a strip of land along Bela Road has also been secured for providing playground for schools located in the Chandni Chowk area. It is also expected that it would be possible to carve out five or six playgrounds in that strip. There is also a proposal to build a stadium for schools in the Civil Lines area. In this way various efforts are being made to provide playgrounds for children. It is not a question of giving grant-in-aid. The question is rather of finding suitable place where playgrounds can be provided for them.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know whether Government have taken any steps to persuade the schools with larger playgrounds to share them with the schools which have none?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That is always possible. But the difficulty is that sharing can also be to a limited extent only.

SHRI LOKNATH MISRA: Is the Government thinking of introducing any other games not requiring playgrounds in those schools which have no playgrounds, for other physical exercises?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Playground is an absolute necessity and whatever be the other arrangements Government have made, there can be no substitute for playgrounds which provide an opportunity for the children to play and give exercise to their limbs, hands and feet. In any case we are making efforts and I am hoping that something will be done to meet this deficiency.

*249. [The questioner (Shri Deokinandau Narayan) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 1295-96 Infra.]

IMPORT OF COKING COAL

250. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import coking coal from foreign countries for manufacturing steel in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b) The possibility of importing coking coal from abroad has been mooted in connection with certain Fourth Plan proposals and the manufacture of pig iron in blast furnaces. No final decision has, however, been taken in the matter.

SHRI A. D. MANI: If Government is going to import coking coal from foreign countries, would it be on sterling account or rupee account?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The countries from which the coke is to be imported is still under consideration. Therefore, I cannot positively say from which area it will come.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Am I to take it that our coal-mines are not able to produce sufficient coking coal for our steel industries?