

reserves of lignite in the areas in question has become known. However the extent of lignite deposits are yet to be actually proved.

(c) The Government of Gujarat has not sent any scheme to the Central Government for utilising lignite from this area. However, they have sent a proposal to the Central Government for financial assistance from the United Nations Special Fund for exploration and advice on the exploitation of the lignite deposits in Kutch area.

ALL-INDIA BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

*105. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educational institutions which have so far sought affiliation to the All India Board of Secondary Education; and

(b) what will be the medium of examination of this Board?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) 311.

(b) Hindi and English.

HINDUSTAN STEEL LTD.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:

♦106. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA:

SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the re-organisation of the Hindustan Steel Limited has been completed;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what has been the effect of this reorganisation on the functioning of the three steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUB-RAMANIAM): (a) and (b) A scheme of re-organisation has been introduced in the Hindustan Steel Limited. A Statement indicating the broad details is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) It has been generally well received but it will take some time for the effect of the reorganisation to become apparent.

STATEMENT

The main object of the scheme of reorganisation which has been introduced with effect from the 1st July 1952 is to ensure that General Managers of the Steel Plants are treated as effective operational heads and are charged with responsibility for the efficient functioning of the Plant. Under the scheme it will be the General Manager of the Plant who will be responsible for its effective operation. The responsibility of the Board of Directors of Hindustan Steel will be limited to general policies, supervision, planning and coordination. The General Managers will have full powers within the budget which is allotted to them. For the delegation to the General Managers to be effective, it has been simultaneously provided that the General Managers must, in their turn, sub-delegate their powers to appropriate officers within the Plants. On personnel matters, full powers have been given to the General Managers except that recruitment and promotion to the grade of Assistant Superintendent and above will require a reference to the Board of Directors. On construction side, General Managers will have full responsibilities for the Expansion Programmes. The Central Purchase Organisation will deal only with certain important raw materials such as iron ore, coal, limestone, manganese, dolomite and refractories on which a common purchase policy is necessary. For other purchases the responsibility will be that of the Plants.

The General Managers have also been asked to lay down their own rules of business regarding matters on which they may consult the Financial Adviser. Proposals in this regard will be considered shortly.

Opportunity has also been taken of this reorganisation to examine what further powers can be delegated by Government to the Board of Directors of Hindustan Steel. Government have delegated powers to the Board of Directors to sanction capital expenditure in cases where detailed project reports have been prepared with estimates of the different component parts of the projects and where such project reports have been approved by Government. In such cases it will ordinarily not be necessary for the Board of Directors to obtain Government sanction to the incurrence of capital expenditure. In the case of variations in approved estimates which are not more than 10% for any component part, the Board of Directors have also been authorised to proceed with the work without further reference to Government provided there is no substantial variation in the scope of the project. For other schemes which have not been approved by Government, the powers of the Board of Directors to incur capital expenditure have been increased from Rs. 40 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakhs. Hindustan Steel have also been authorised to make appointments on salaries up to Rs. 2500 a month without reference to Government as against the previous limit of Rs. 2000 a month.

LABOUR POLICY FOR PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

♦107. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a comprehensive labour policy for public sector undertakings as indicated by him at a recent Press Conference; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : (a) and (b) The labour policy worked out by Government is not specially for either public sector or the private sector undertakings. The labour laws do not discriminate between the public and private sectors. However, the public sector has special problems and special responsibilities in its dealings with labour. The main aspects of labour management relations with special reference to these points are being discussed at the ensuing session of the Indian Labour Conference.

Meanwhile the important points on which public sector managements should concentrate attention in their relations with labour are being brought together in a Handbook for the guidance of managements. Government, in my Ministry, also propose to enunciate in the light of the deliberations of the ensuing Conference, the broad directions of emphasis in matters of labour policy with reference to the public sector managements under its control.

SUPPLIES OF OIL FROM SOVIET UNION

•108. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state whether it is a fact that supplies of oil from the Soviet Union have considerably decreased in the recent months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): No, Sir.

DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY THE RESERVE BANK TO STEAMER COMPANIES, ADELINES AND TRAVEL AGENTS

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH

109. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the nature of fresh directives issued by the Reserve Bank