

start a machine tool factory under the public sector in Kerala;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken for the same; and

(c) whether any place in Kerala has been selected for the purpose; if so, what is its name?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). Government have under consideration a proposal to establish another machine tool factory in the public sector. The feasibility of locating the factory in Kerala is under examination.

PURCHASE OF SUPER CONSTELLATION AIRCRAFT BY DEFENCE MINISTRY

*446. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to page 11 of the Report of the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Department of Communications and Civil Aviation) for 1961-62 and state the reasons for the agreement with the Air India Corporation for the purchase of the entire fleet of Super Constellation 1049 aircraft, together with its ancillary spares and equipment by Defence Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): The I.A.F. have requirement for these aircraft.

SUBSIDY PAID TO M/s. BENGAL COAL COMPANY LTD.

*447. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 64 lakhs was paid to M/s. Bengal Coal Company Limited as subsidy for undertaking stowing operations out of the total amount of Rs. 81 lakhs sanctioned for subsidising the entire coal-field area?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): Information is being collected and will

be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha in due course.

COAL SEAMS IN SINGRAULI (M. P.)

*451. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 281 in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th June, 1962, and state the height, length and width of the two seams found in Singrauli area and the depth on which they are to be worked out?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): The following dimensions of the two seams, Purewa and Turra, have been proved:—

(a) Strike-wise continuity (length)—10 kilometres.

(b) Dip-wise continuity (width)—4.8 kilometres.

(c) Thickness (Height) —

(i) Purewa seam varies normally between 14 and 23 metres.

(ii) Turra seam usually ranges between 12 and 22 metres.

2. The National Coal Development Corporation Ltd. proposes to work the coal seams at Singrauli as detailed below during the Third Plan period:—

(i) *Purewa Top.*—Thickness ranging from 4.2 to 10.8 metres at an average depth of about 39 metres.

Purewa Bottom.—Thickness ranging from 2.7 to 14.6 metres at an average depth of about 67 metres.

(ii) *Turra.*—Thickness ranging from 16.5 to 26.7 metres at an average depth of about 130 metres.