

the Administering Authority concerned, such of the petitions received as, in its opinion, warrant special investigation;

(iv) to examine the measures taken and to be taken in respect of the provision of information about the United Nations to the people of Trust Territories; and

(v) to transmit to the Council as soon as practicable a report on each of the territories visited containing its findings with such observations, conclusions and recommendations as it may wish to make.

AMERICAN STEEL EXPERT FOR MYSORE IRON AND STEEL WORKS

*406. SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requisitioned the services of an American steel expert to advise on the expansion plans of the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati;

(b) if so, what are the technical qualifications and experiences of this expert; and

(c) what are the terms on which his services have been requisitioned and for what period?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A well known firm of consultants have been invited to advise Government.

(c) The salary and passages ex-India in this connection will be met by the Technical Co-operation Mission Administration and the Government of Mysore will bear the travel expenses within India when on official duty and meet the cost of official communications, secretarial, technical and other services as may be required in connection with the assignment.

NATIONAL BUILDING ORGANISATION

*408. SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalized the administrative set up of the National Building Organisation; and

(b) if so, what is the strength of the establishment in each category of service of the Organisation?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) The Director has been appointed and the proposals for staff submitted by him are under examination.

(b) Does not arise.

PRODUCTION TARGET OF FERTILISERS

*409. SHRI PRASADARAO: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals under consideration of Government for starting new fertiliser factories in the country; if so, where they are proposed to be erected; and

(b) whether Government have considered any proposals for the setting up of any factory to utilise the phosphatic nodules of the Tiruchirappalli District in Madras State?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) Proposals relating to the expansion of capacity for production of nitrogenous fertilisers and the location of the new units of production are now under the examination of the Government.

(b) The Government have not received or considered any such proposals. They are however advised that these nodules are not suitable for the

manufacture of superphosphate by the usual method of reacting with sulphuric acid and that alternative methods will require a large amount of cheap electric power.

AMOUNTS OF AID TO COAL-MINES BY COAL BOARD

*414. SHRI B. GUPTA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state the number of mining concerns which are granted aid for filling up the void caused by the extraction of coal from coal mines?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): The number of mining concerns that received such aid in 1953-54 was 55.

LABOURERS AND STAFF IN HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD LIMITED

*420. SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of labourers and staff working at present in Hindustan Shipyard Limited at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) what was their number when Government took over the shipyard from the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) The total number of staff and labourers working at the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam on the 1st September 1954 was 3360.

(b) 4,238.

*421. [Postponed to 23rd September 1954.]

AFGHAN REFUGEES IN INDIA

189. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the number of Afghan refugees at present residing in India;

(b) what is the annual expenditure incurred by Government on account of those refugees;

(c) what are the reasons for treating them as refugees; and

(d) whether there are any refugees who have been recipients of help from Government for several generations; and if so, what is their number?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU):

(a) Thirty-two. Out of them 29 are in receipt of maintenance allowances, etc.

(b) About Rs. 1,00,800 per annum.

(c) Afghan refugees were brought to India a long time, in some cases more than 50 years, ago either because they themselves or their parents were inimical to the Government of Afghanistan.

(d) The maintenance allowances given to the Afghan refugees are admissible for their lifetimes or until such time as they leave India. In the past, in certain cases the successors of deceased Afghan refugees were given allowances *ex gratia* though at reduced scales.

EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

190. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total amount spent by Government on international conferences held in foreign countries in—

(i) 1950,

(ii) 1951,

(iii) 1952 and

(iv) 1953?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): The information on the basis of previous data collected in reply to ques-