

have not got information at hand; but I shall be happy to supply it.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Is the Government aware that due to the cut-throat competition by foreign firms, Indian firms and Indian manufacturers engaged in these lines and druggists find it very difficult to maintain their business?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : For the purpose of the protection of Indian concerns, as the hon. Member probably knows, we do not make any distinction between an Indian firm or a firm established in India by a foreign concern. We do not make any such distinction. We treat them all alike.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : What steps does the Government propose to take for protecting the indigenous drug industry as against the foreign industries?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Sir, by giving due protection to our indigenous industry and by raising the tariff wall sufficiently for that purpose.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Sir, my question is this : Now, you have allowed foreign drug manufacturers to set up factories in India which are ruining the indigenous capital. What steps does the Government propose to take to protect Indian capital?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : That is to say Indian capital in a participating concern as against foreign capital involved in the same concern?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : No.

PROF. G. RANGA : You have already answered it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He means that foreign manufacturers working in India are ruining Indian manufacturers working in India.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : To the best of my knowledge, I can say that there is no such concern whose capital is wholly subscribed by the

foreign manufacturers. We have allowed only participation; but, I should like to make myself sure.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA : May I ask, Sir, whether Government is going to appoint a Committee to go into the manufacture of drugs and whether they will put Chloromycetine and Aureomycin in the list?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Sir, regarding the manufacture of drugs, our Development Wing is always there. We had received complaints about high prices charged for foreign medicines and we want to go into this matter and the other question which my hon. friend refers is always in our mind.

PROF. G. RANGA : Sir, will the Government keep in mind also, especially when they refer to that Committee, the point raised by my hon. friend that there might be complaints made by our own Indian concerns—wholly Indian concerns—about the competition that they may be suffering from concerns which are partly owned and managed by foreigners, but, functioning in our country and see whether there is any truth in it and, if so, what measures can possibly be taken by Government to encourage really Indian concerns?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : We shall surely consider that, but, whether to do it through the Committee or immediately or otherwise, is a matter which we shall look into.

#### SINGANERI COAL FOR TOBACCO GROWERS

\*140. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received applications from various tobacco growers' bodies in Andhra demanding Singaneri coal;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to meet the demands of the tobacco growers; and

(c) whether the above variety of coal is best suited for tobacco curing ?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : (a) A representation was received by the Coal Commissioner from the Guntur District Tobacco Growers & Curers Co-operative Society, Limited, Ongole, for the supply of the major portion of their quota of coal from Singaneri Collieries.

(b) The current programme provides for the supply of 84% of the quota from the Singaneri Collieries and the balance from Bengal/Bihar and Talcher Coalfields.

(c) It would be difficult to say so without examining the suitability of all other coals for tobacco curing.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Why not the full quota of coal required by the tobacco growers in Andhra be supplied from the Singaneri Collieries which are very near to them ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : As I have already said in the course of my answer, the major portion of it is being supplied from Singaneri Collieries about 84%. A good part of the production is also necessary for the South Indian Railways and so, we have got to make a judicious allocation of the coal available from the Singaneri Collieries to all the primary consumers in South India.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Sir, if the coal required by the tobacco growers is supplied from Singaneri, which is nearer to them, they can get it cheaper ; when that is the position, why can't the whole amount of coal required be supplied to the tobacco growers from Singaneri instead of being imported from thousands of miles away, from Calcutta ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : It would be very desirable, Sir, if we could supply the entire quantity required by them from the Singaneri Collieries but, there are certain practical difficulties. As the hon. Member will please see, we

already supply a very good part of the requirements from the Singaneri Collieries and every attempt will be made to see that the maximum quantity required for tobacco curing purposes is supplied from Singaneri. Only a very small quantity is supplied from Bengal, Bihar and Talcher. Anyway, I shall have the matter looked into again, Sir.

#### PROTECTION OF DIBRUGARH FROM FLOODS

\*141. DR. R. B. GOUR (on behalf of SHRI V. K. DHAGE) : Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representations to take permanent measures to stop damage to the town of Dibrugarh by the yearly overflowing of Brahmaputra river, by including the same in the Five Year Plan ; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : (a) and (b). The scheme for the protection of Dibrugarh town has been accepted by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Five Year Plan. The attention of the hon. Member is also drawn to the detailed statement on the matter made by the Prime Minister on the 13th November 1952.

#### DISCOVERY OF COAL IN ORISSA

\*142. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sixty feet seam of easily workable coal has been found near Talcher Colliery in Orissa ; and

(b) if so, when it was found ; and whether work for extracting coal from that seam has been started ?