

(c) Stock position as on 31-5-77 at each of these plants is indicated below:—

	(In '000 tonnes)
1. Bhilai	89.1
2. Rourkela	65.8
3. Durgapur	42.6
4. Bokaro	28.3
5. IISCO	19.0

(d) SAIL International is authorised to adjust prices from time to time depending on internal and external demands.

Release of Pakistani Nationals

*76. SHRI K. MALLANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have decided to release 200 Pakistani nationals detained in India on various charges;

(b) if so, whether some Indian nationals are also in custody of Pakistan at present; and

(c) if so, their number and position regarding their release?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Government of India have decided to release 188 Pakistani nationals detained in India.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. According to present information, their number is around 90. Pakistan has so far confirmed the detention of 37 persons. Arrangements are underway for their repatriation. The position of the remaining persons has yet to be verified and confirmed by the Government of Pakistan.

बिहार में काला-ज्वर महामारी

* 77. श्री राम बिलास पासवान : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार राज्य के वैशाली जिले में काला-ज्वर का भीषण प्रकोप है;

(ख) क्या हजारों लोगों की काला-ज्वर में मृत्यु हो चुकी है;

(ग) क्या राज्य सरकार उक्त महामारी को रोकने में प्रयत्न कर रही है;

(घ) क्या सदस्य ने इस बारे में पहले ही लिखित सूचना दी थी; और

(ङ) यदि हाँ, तो उक्त रोग को रोकने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राज नागयण): (क) बिहार सरकार द्वारा भेजी गई सूचना के अनुसार 9-6-77 तक वैशाली जिले में काला-ज्वर में 186 व्यक्तियों के पीड़ित होने के समाचार मिले हैं।

(ख) वर्ष 1976 में वैशाली जिले में काला-ज्वर से 8 व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु होने के समाचार मिले थे किन्तु न तो वर्ष 1975 में प्रथम न अथवा न 1977 में ऐसी कोई मृत्यु हुई बताई गई है।

(ग) जी नहीं, राज्य सरकार द्वारा पहले से ही कार्यवाही की जा रही है। उन्होंने वैशाली जिले को पर्याप्त मात्रा में अफेजिन दवाई दे दी है।

(घ) जी हाँ।

(ङ) इस बीमारी को रोकना मुख्यतः राज्य सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है और राज्य सरकार को आवश्यक सुविधाएँ और धन को व्यवस्था करने का अनुरोध कर दिया गया है।

दिल्ली स्थित राष्ट्रीय संचारी रोग संस्थान ने इस समस्या का अध्ययन करने और राज्य सरकार को सलाह देने के लिए बिहार में एक यूनिट खोल दिया है।

Expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants without Soviet Cooperation

*78. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to have Soviet co-operation for the further expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government intend to have technical co-operation for the expansion of these two Plants from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has decided to be fully self reliant in the field of steel technology. Only if unavoidable, Government may consider having foreign technical co-operation.

Measures to check Population Explosion

*79. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI:
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the measures Government have taken or propose to take to check and control population explosion in the country, short of compulsory sterilization of eligible couples?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): The Government

of India have reviewed the implementation of the Family Welfare Programme, specially in the light of the declared policy of the present Government to pursue the programme on a wholly voluntary basis.

Family Planning will be pursued vigorously and as an integral part of a comprehensive policy covering Education, Health, Maternity and Child Care, Family Welfare Women's rights and nutrition. The approach will be educational and wholly voluntary, but there will be no slacking of our efforts in the direction of achieving a reduction in the birth rate from the present level to a level of 30 per thousand by 1979 and 25 per thousand by 1984. All methods of contraception will be made available freely and people will be encouraged to adopt the method of their choice. Integration of Family Welfare Programme with Maternity and Child Health Schemes and Rural Health Schemes will be achieved for furthering voluntary acceptance of the small Family Norm. Involvement of voluntary organisations, Public Opinion Leaders and Local Bodies will be actively sought.

The revised approach to the Family Welfare Programme has also been discussed with the State Health Ministers at a Conference on 28-4-1977 and the Statement outlining the new approach is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in library. See No. LT-361/77].

Scrapping of Payment of Pension to former M.P.s.

*80. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:
Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward in the current Budget Session the legislation scrapping the