

million tonnes as compared to 4.47 million tonnes on 1-12-1963. The increase is only of the order of 0.32 million tonnes.

(b) With a view to reducing the accumulation of pithead stocks, Government have taken several measures such as:

- (i) relaxation of distribution control over lower grades of coal and soft coke;
- (ii) liberalisation of licensing policy with regard to opening of brick kilns and soft coke depots;
- (iii) advising the State Governments to encourage the growth of coal-based industries and to restrict the use of fire-wood and charcoal in industrial furnaces; and
- (iv) permitting consumers to draw supplies of coal irrespective of their quotas.

#### Durgapur Steel Project

\*53. { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Britain has agreed to advance a loan to India for expansion of the production capacity of the Durgapur Steel Project;

(b) if so, the total amount of loan; and

(c) the terms on which this will be made available?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). The UK Government have agreed in principle to provide necessary assistance to meet the foreign exchange cost of expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant during the Fourth Plan period. The amount of the credit and

the terms and conditions have not yet been settled.

#### Industrial Estates in Kerala

\*54. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottakkatt:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to start three private Industrial Estates in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the L.I.C. has agreed to provide loan assistance to this scheme;

(c) the number of proposals received from intending entrepreneurs to establish these units; and

(d) where these units will be located?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House

#### Train Disaster at Dhanushkodi

{ Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:  
Shri Jagdev Singh  
Siddhanti:  
Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri Eswara Reddy:  
Shri J. B. Singh:  
Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:  
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
Shri R. S. Tiwary:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
\*55. { Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Maharajkumar Vijaya  
Ananda:  
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:  
Shri P. H. Bheel:  
Shri Bade:  
Shri Hukam Chand  
Kachhavalaya:  
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Shri Daljit Singh:  
 Shri Narendra Singh Mahida.  
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:  
 Shrimati Akkamma Devi:  
 Shri M. R. Krishna:  
 Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:  
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:  
 Shri Man Singh P. Patel:  
 Shri H. V. Koujalgi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a full passenger train running between Pamban and Dhanushkodi was totally lost in the cyclonic storm that hit the area on the 23rd December, 1964;

(b) if so, the total loss of life and property involved thereby;

(c) the loss to the railway property;

(d) whether any enquiry has been made into this disaster; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No definite information in regard to the total loss of life is yet available. According to the reports received, more than 100 persons were in the train. Cost of damage to railway property caused by this train accident is estimated at approximately Rs. 3,70,000. No data in regard to loss of public property are yet available.

(d) and (e). This accident was enquired into by a Committee of three Senior Railway Officers and their report is under scrutiny.

#### Trading Houses

\*56. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 578 on the 18th December, 1964, regarding the setting up of Indian trading houses on the pat-

tern of big Department Stores in certain key centres abroad and state:

(a) the further action taken in the matter; and

(b) how many such trading houses have so far been opened?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). The matter has been referred to Export Promotion Councils and our Missions in Hong Kong and Singapore.

#### Production of Aluminium

{ Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 { Shri Subodh Hansda:  
 \*57. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
 { Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up five new projects and expand the existing ones to increase the production of aluminium in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

**The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, see No LT 3797/65].

#### Fifth Steel Plant

{ Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
 { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
 { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 { Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
 { Shri R. S. Tiwary:  
 { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
 { Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:  
 { Shri K. C. Pant:  
 { Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand  
 { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
 { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
 \*58. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:  
 { Shri Sezhyan:  
 { Shri D. D. Puri:  
 { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
 { Shri Murlī Manohar:  
 { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: