

Rourkela Steel Plant

*217. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress at the steel works at Rourkela is not according to the original timetable set for it;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties in keeping to the schedule;

(c) whether it is a fact that this loss of time is due to Government's system of calling tenders; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to remove this delay?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Several factors have contributed to the delay in commissioning of the various units of the plant, as per the original schedule, such as—

- (i) Delay in site formation due to the rocky strata being higher than originally envisaged.
- (ii) Delay in civil engineering work due to the difficulties in finding suitable contractors with adequate equipment and organisation to undertake the work.
- (iii) Labour strikes at Calcutta port and erection sites.
- (iv) Transport difficulties in the movement of plant and equipment.
- (v) Defective quality of the cement supplied and used for some time.

Delay in commissioning the plant cannot, however, be attributed to the procedure of calling for tenders. All efforts are being made to eliminate delay as far as possible.

Voluntary Organisations for the Handicapped

*218. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Nek Ram Negi:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations working for the development of the orthopaedically handicapped people at present;

(b) what kind of assistance is given to these organisations; and

(c) the conditions under which such assistance is given?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The exact number is not known, but the Ministry has information about eleven such organisations.

(b) These organisations are eligible for financial assistance representing upto 60% of the approved recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

(c) A copy of rules governing the scheme is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 55].

Salar Jang Museum, Hyderabad

*219. **Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is converting the Salar Jang Museum at Hyderabad into a National Museum;

(b) if so, whether there will be a Board of Trustees to manage the museum; and

(c) whether the museum will be acquired free of cost or any compensation will be paid to the present trustees of the museum?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Board of Trustees will be set up under an Act of Parliament.

(c) It has already been acquired as a gift.

Coal for Durgapur Steel Plants

***220. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coke oven of Hindustan Steel Project Plant at Durgapur and the coke oven and Bye-Products Plant of the Durgapur Industries Board are not getting their requisite supplies of coal;

(b) if so, what are the arrangements for supplying coal for the coke ovens of these plants at Durgapur and whether their requisition for coal from various supplying agencies were fully met month by month in 1960 to date, and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) While supplies were not equal to programme of requirements, stocks never fell so low as to cause decrease in production. The Coke Oven Plant and the Steel Plant each held stocks equivalent to two to three weeks' requirements at the end of June and July respectively.

(b) and (c). The Steel Plant draws its supplies from collieries in Kusunda and Barakar areas, and the Coke Oven Plant from the Jharia, Barakar and Dishergarh areas and from the Giridih collieries. Between January and May this year, as a result of transport difficulties, the percentage of wagons allotted in relation to the basic programme for the two plants, was 63.1 and 59.2 respectively. There was an improvement in June when the percentages went up to 89.2 and 77.2. It is hoped that this improvement can be maintained in the coming months.

New Universities

***221.** { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Universities set up and proposed to be soon set up in the country since the University Grants Commission has been established;

(b) whether the Commission was consulted in regard to the setting up of such Universities;

(c) if so, in how many cases; and

(d) whether the advice of the Commission, if asked for and tendered, was accepted in such cases?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Ten new Universities have been set up and proposals for setting up six more Universities have been formulated since the establishment of the U.G.C. as a statutory body.

(b) and (c). The Commission was consulted in the case of 12 Universities.

(d) The position with regard to six Universities already set up is as under:—

(1) *Jabalpur*: The views of the Commission were not intimated because the additional information needed by them was not supplied by the State Government.

(2) *Kurukshetra*: The Commission's advice was not accepted by the State Government.

(3) *Rudrapur*: Most of the suggestions of the Commission were accepted.

(4) *Burdwan*: The proposal to set up the University was generally