

Emoluments of Bhilai Steel Plant Workers

2106. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been concluded between the management and the workers' union at Bhilai Steel Plant; for increase of emoluments;

(b) the terms of the agreement;

(c) the financial implications of the agreement; and

(d) whether similar increase in emoluments is being considered in other steel projects in the country?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) and (b). Agreements have recently been concluded between the management of the Bhilai Steel Plant and the Steel Workers Union, Bhilai, for increase of emoluments for certain categories of operational staff and reduction of working hours for ministerial staff on the operation side. The agreements involve removal of inequalities in the wages of certain posts on the operation side, and reduction in the office hours of the ministerial staff working on the operation side by half an hour to remove the disparity amongst the similar staff.

(c) The additional expenditure on account of the agreements would be Rs. 9000 per month.

(d) Whenever similar inequalities are noticed in the other steel plants under the Hindustan Steel Limited, the Plant authorities generally consider them and try to remove these inequalities, so as to have uniform standards in Hindustan Steel Limited, as far as possible.

Oil Drilling in Mehsana District (Gujarat)

2107. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) how many oil wells have been drilled in Mehsana District, Gujarat;

(b) how many out of them have been successful; and

(c) whether any other places for drilling have been selected in Mehsana District?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Four, Sir.

(b) Three wells are oil producing and the fourth is under test.

(c) The area between Adraj Merda and Sanand villages will be drilled in the near future.

Declaration of 10th May as Holiday

2108. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to declare 10th May as public holiday in order to commemorate the beginning of the freedom struggle of 1857?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): No such proposal is under consideration.

Prefabricated Schools in Delhi

**2109. { Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of prefabricated school buildings being constructed in Delhi and New Delhi areas in place of the existing tents; and

(b) the total cost of the prefabricated schools?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Sasti Colliery in Chanda District (Maharashtra)

2110. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down Sasti Colliery in Chanda District, Maharashtra; and