

The despatches during the corresponding period were 11,711 tonnes. These despatches include supplies against Central quotas, State quotas and despatches to Controlled Stockists against current and outstanding demands. The allotment for the second half year of 1962-63 has yet to be made.

Pig Iron.—(i) Since there is no quota system for pig iron, no allotments are made. Indents received from industrial units in the Punjab State to the extent of 55,397 metric tons have been planned during 1962 (upto 23rd October 1962).

(ii) 31,001 metric tons (April to September 1962).

Cement Factory in Kangra

840. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 236 on the 8th August, 1962 and state whether the site for the cement factory has been selected in consultation with the Railways?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): No, Sir. Not yet. The Government of Punjab have since represented that the factory should be set up at Samloti in Kangra district as originally proposed and the economics of such a scheme based on transport of raw materials and the finished product by road between Pathankot and Samloti are now under examination.

Aluminium Conductors Industry

841. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what facilities are being given to small scale units to become bigger economic units in the aluminium conductors industry?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): Generally, it is considered that A.C.S.R. and A.A. Conductor industry is not suited for small scale development as this cannot be

economically operated in small scale. Therefore, when capacities for further licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act become available, due weightage is given to the contribution made by the small scale units and where they can possibly be developed into larger units they are considered for licensing. However each application has to be considered on its own merit.

Steel for Defence Needs

**842. { Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:**

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether the need of the Ministry of Defence in respect of steel has been reassessed in view of the present national emergency;

(b) if so, what is the assessment of steel requirement during the Third Plan; and

(c) whether the production in the steel plants in the public sector has been geared up in view of the revised estimate?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Defence have indicated their immediate direct requirements, which the Steel Industry is being geared to produce at short notice. The industry will also meet additional requirements, when known, to the extent possible.

Non-ferrous Metals

843. Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh have moved the Union Government for increase in its quota of supply of non-ferrous metals;