

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No Sir. The fact is that the amount of Rs. 11.9 million has been released by the Government of India from their free resources to enable Rourkela Steel Plant to build up the reserve stock of spare parts.

(b) A further allocation of Rs. 12 million has also been made for the procurement of consumable spares required for the day-to-day maintenance of the Plant. These allocations will by and large meet the present requirements of spare parts for the Plant.

Rourkela Steel Plant

1358. Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to appoint a German General Manager for Rourkela Steel Plant till it attains technical soundness; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Precision Instruments Plant

1359. Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the project report for setting up a precision Instruments Plant at Kotah; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes; the Kotah project Report has been accepted by the Government. A company with an authorised capital of Rs. 7 crores is shortly being registered under the Companies Act for the implementation of the project.

Srivastava Committee's Report

1361. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state the progress made in the consideration of the Srivastava Committee's report on export of jute goods?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): The Report has been under Government's consideration and no firm decisions have yet been taken on the recommendations, except in regard to the recommendation for the repeal of the Working Time Agreement of the Indian Jute Mills Association. As a result of discussions held with the representatives of the Association, the Working Time Agreement has ceased to be operative with effect from the 1st February, 1964.

New Projects in Co-operation with Public Sector

1362. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in his inaugural speech delivered at the 17th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers Association held at Ludhiana on the 22nd February, 1964 he had invited the industrialists to submit proposals for starting new projects in co-operation with public sector;

(b) if so, the conditions on which the proposals will be entertained; and

(c) whether any proposal has since been received by Government?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Each proposal will be considered on merits.

(c) No, Sir.