

**Chairman of H.E.C., Ranchi**

**9022. Shri Kartik Oraon:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ranchi asked for the extension of his term to seven years with effect from February, 1967;

(b) if so, for how many years he has been given extension; and

(c) whether it is a fact that he asked for a salary of Rs. 7,000/- per month and that it was turned down and if so, the salary he is being given now?

**The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, it may be mentioned that Government have extended the term of the Chairman for a period of three years with effect from the 24th March, 1967.

(c) No, Sir. He never asked for any salary. His salary is Re. 1/- per month.

**Export of Tea to Japan**

**9023. Shri D. N. Patodia:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Japanese Trade delegation recently held discussions with the Tea Board for the promotion of the sale of Tea in Japan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the delegation has shown interest in the Indian black tea which is popular in Japan;

(c) whether any sales promotion scheme has been drawn up; and

(d) if so, the main features thereof and the extent to which the sale of Indian tea in Japan is likely to be increased?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) to (d). No trade delegation, as such, from Japan has visited India recently for discussions with the Tea Board. A few representatives of a leading importer of tea in Japan, however, came to Calcutta on a private visit for discussions with their Indian business associates. These representatives also made a courtesy call on the senior officers of the Tea Board. No specific scheme was discussed at this meeting.

**Closure of Steel Foundries**

**9024. Shri D. N. Patodia:**  
**Shri N. K. Sanghi:**

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the possible closure of the steel foundries which are facing severe recession;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Steel Furnace Association of India had requested Government that the cogging and rolling facilities of the Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant should be made available to the steel foundries; and

(c) if so, whether Government have considered the above proposal and taken any decision in the matter?

**The Minister of Industrial Development F. A. Ahmed):** (a) Some units in the steel foundry industry are unable to utilise their full capacity due to shortage of orders. Government, however, are not aware of any possible closure of any of these foundries for this reason.

(b) and (c). No suggestion from the Steel Furnace Association of India has been received by the Government regarding the provision of cogging and rolling facilities of Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant to steel foundries. However, such a suggestion has been received from a con-