

**Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:**  
**Shri S. K. Tapariah:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number and particulars of the trains on the Eastern Railway which were held up since the termination of the last session of Lok Sabha;

(b) the main reasons for their hold up; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) 34 trains, including 26 suburban, 7 passenger and 1 express trains were held up from 8th April, 1967 to 10th June, 1967. These hold-ups resulted in detention to 148 other trains (viz. 16 Mail/Express, 14 Passenger and 118 suburban) and cancellation of 85 trains.

(b) The reasons, mainly were stopping of trains by public to prevent rice smuggling, quarrels amongst passengers, protests against late running, provision of additional stoppages, revision of train timings, etc.

(c) All cases of hold-ups are reported to the civil authorities and report of major cases are also sent to the Chief Minister. As for demands for improving train timings, provision of stoppages, etc., action, as is found feasible and justified, having regard to the overall interests of traffic and availability of resources by way of coaching stock etc., is always taken. Punctuality of trains is also watched at all levels and everything possible is being done to run trains to time.

#### **Expansion of Durgapur Steel Plant**

**3408. Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Sharda Nand:**  
**Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:**  
**Shri Rajjit Singh:**

**Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri C. Janardhanan:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether a hitch in the negotiations on the second stage of expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant has developed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are pursuing the negotiations?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy):** (a) to (c). The matter is still under consideration.

#### **Phosphorous in Katni**

**3497. Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:**  
**Shri Ram Singh Aiyarwal:**  
**Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:**  
**Shri Nathu Ram Ahirwar:**  
**Shrimati Agam Das Guru**  
**Minimata:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 815 on the 29th July, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the iron ore available in Katni has considerable phosphorous contents and as such when converted into pig iron is eminently suitable for the manufacture of spun pipes; and

(b) if so, the decision taken on the application of the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the manufacture of 300,000 tonnes of pig iron from iron ore at Katni?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy):** (a) According to the State Government, the Kanhwara iron ore deposits near Katni have a phosphorous content of 0.39 to 0.57 per cent on a water free basis. Pig iron with high phosphorous content is desirable for manufacture of spun pipes.