

had increased from 847,300 tonnes in 1957-58 to 950,200 tonnes in 1964-65 and was only 734,200 tonnes in 1966-67 when the industry was facing difficulties.

(b) and (c). In line with Government's general policy to keep performance of exports under constant review and in the light of various representations, including from the industry, for duty concession export duties have been reduced with effect from 7-2-68 on hessian soaking and specialities by Rs. 250, Rs. 200 and Rs. 600 per tonne respectively.

#### **Joint Plant Committee**

89. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee has been appointed to go into the question of reorganisation of the functions and set up of the Joint Plant Committee;

(b) why the constitution of the committee was found necessary even after a high power committee headed by Shri Khadilkar had submitted a report on this subject;

(c) what new grounds will be covered by the new committee; and

(d) how many of the recommendations of the Khadilkar Committee have been accepted for implementation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Study Team headed by Shri R. K. Khadilkar, which was appointed to go into the working of the Iron and Steel Controller's Organisation, submitted the first part of their report on the production, price and distribution of indigenous steel in May, 1966. Since then, there have been complaints about the working of the Joint Plant Committee and the effectiveness of its regulation over the producers.

The Standing Committee of the Iron and Steel Advisory Council accordingly set up a Committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Iron and Steel to go into the question.

(d) In part I, there were 59 recommendations, of which only one was not accepted and the others have been accepted for implementation, some with minor modifications. Similarly, in part II there were 66 recommendations, of which only 2 were not accepted and the others were accepted for implementation, some with minor modifications.

#### **Chairman of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi**

90. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an ex-Minister has been appointed as Chairman of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi; and

(b) if so, the reasons for appointing a non-technical person in this undertaking?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):** (a) The appointment of Chairman has not yet been finalised;

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Bokaro Steel Project**

97. SHRI ONKAR SINGH;  
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 855 on the 22nd December, 1967 and state:

(a) the details of the order given to different parties for construction materials and equipment required by the Bokaro Steel Project; and