

neering Corporation, Ranchi, the progress of the first stage of Bokaro Steel Ltd., has been hampered ;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for this at the Heavy Engineering Corporation level ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to rectify them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Shortfalls in the supply of mechanical equipments according to the phased delivery schedule is one of factors which has hampered the progress of construction of the first stage of Bokaro Steel Plant.

(b) The main factors responsible for delay in the supplies of equipment from the Heavy Engineering Corporation were industrial unrest, slow delivery of components from sub-contractors from shortage of strategic materials such as steel plates of killed quality, inadequate build-up of productivity levels, organisational shortcomings and initial technological and production difficulties in respect of certain sophisticated equipment items of which were being manufactured in the country for the first time.

(c) Some of the orders of Heavy Engineering Corporation have been off-loaded on other manufactures, import of certain competing components have been arranged, a Task Force has been set up in the Ministry to review the performance of HEC at regular intervals and frequent review meetings are held by the Ministry with Bokaro Steel Limited and Heavy Engineering Corporation to help in overcoming the difficulties. As a result considerable improvement has already taken place in the flow of supplies to Bokaro.

#### Construction Organisation of Bhilai Steel Plant

5847. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) when the construction organisation in the Bhilai Steel Plant of Hindustan Steel Limited was set up ;

(b) the number of Engineers, Technical Assistants, Supervisory and work-charged persons working in this organisation ;

(c) whether Government have now decided to decimate this organisation and if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) whether all the employees of this organisation would be serving afresh with chance of permanency in the Hindustan Steel Construction Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Construction Organisation of Bhilai Steel Plant was set up in 1956 ;

(b) As on 8.5.1972, there were 293 Engineers, 60 Technical Assistants, 692 Supervisory Staff and 5452 Work-charged employees working in this Organisation.

(c) Since work connected with the expansion programmes of Bhilai Steel Plant has been entrusted to Hindustan Steel-Works Construction Limited the construction staff of Bhilai Steel Plant has become surplus.

(d) A circular has been issued by the Plant management to the workers explaining to them the terms and conditions of the Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited. Those who wish to serve in Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited will have to tender voluntary resignation, take advantage of that scheme and join afresh in Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited on their terms and conditions.

#### Assistance given to Foreign Countries

5848. SHRI S. D SOMASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries which have received assistance from India during 1971-72 under the ITEC programme ; and

(b) the assistance received by each country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The following countries received assistance under the ITEC programme in 1971-72 :

Afghanistan, Angola, Arab Republic of Egypt, Cambodia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Fiji,