

(b) if so, the steps being taken to ensure supply at the controlled rate?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). The position in respect of Coal and Steel is as follows:

(i) Coal.—There is no statutory control on coal prices since July 1967. Some traders taking undue advantage of the shortage of coal supplies in some regions due to inadequate rail transport and temporary difficulties arising out of the recent take over of the management of the non-coking coal mines by the Government did increase coal prices. Railways are making efforts to improve the wagon availability for ensuring increased coal supplies to the areas of shortage. Government are also taking steps to bring down prices by creating dumps in major cities and distribution through State administrations.

(ii) Steel—Most of the steel produced is despatched to the actual consumers at regulated prices and only a small percentage of steel production is given to traders for resale purpose. There are three regulated sources for supply of steel material namely main Steel Plants, Billet Re-rollers and stockyards of the main producers and steel materials can be obtained from these sources at uniform prices all over the country.

Use of steel for any purpose other than that for which it is allotted or applied for is an offence. Action is taken whenever cases of leakage of steel given for actual use to the open market come to light.

#### E.P.F. Dues from Companies

6211. SHRI P. GANGADEB:  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Provident Fund contributions for nearly Rs. 20 crores have

not been deposited with the authorities by a number of companies; and

(b) if so, the number of those companies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY): (a) and (b). The Provident Fund Authorities have reported that 7685 un-exempted establishments (inclusive of Companies) have failed to deposit the provident fund contributions (inclusive of past accumulations) to the tune of about Rs. 21.56 crores as on 30-9-1972.

#### भारतीय नौसैनिक बड़े में बढ़ोतरी

6212. श्री एम० एस० पुंस्ती :  
श्री जी० बाई० कुल्कर्णी :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार द्वारा भारतीय नौसैनिक बड़े में कुछ बढ़ोतरी की गई है ;

(ख) क्या नौसेना में कुछ बड़े अफसरों के पद भी बढ़ाए गए हैं; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो उसका ज्वारा क्या है ?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जयजीवन राम) :  
(क) भारतीय नौसैनिक बड़े, विशेषतया पनडुब्बी शस्त्र तथा पनडुब्बी रीघी नौसेना हयर बिग, को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए रुबन उठाए गये हैं। नौसेना का विकास एक लगातार चलने वाली प्रक्रिया है।

(ख) जी हाँ श्रीमान।

(ग) प्रिन्सिपल स्टाफ अफसरों के दो पदों का श्रौहदा बढ़ाकर बाईसे एडमिरल कर दिया गया है और रीमर एडमिरल पद में सहायक प्रिन्सिपल स्टाफ अफसरों के तीन पदों का सृजन किया गया है।