

- (viii) Setting up of a Standing Committee under the auspices of RBI to study viability of jute mills and to suggest a package of financial measures for the rehabilitation of potentially viable units;
- (ix) With a view to improving the supply position of raw jute, the Government have taken the following steps:-
- (a) Regulating the stock holdings of jute mills under the Jute (Control and Licensing) Order, 1961 to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute;
- (b) authorising Jute Corporation of India to arrange for import of 5 lakh bales of raw jute from abroad. However, against the above authorisation, JCI have been able to contract for import of about 3 lakh bales.

Proposal to Decanalise Imports of Alloy Steel wire Rods and Non-bulkable wire Rods

803. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government would decanalise imports of alloy steel wire rods in all grades and non bulkable wire rods and ban imports of some grades of carbon steel wires and alloy steel wires :
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c). The annual import-export policy for 1985-86 is under formulation. This will be announced by the Ministry of Commerce.

Places identified for location of Dry ports

804. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken steps for the establishment of dry ports in the country;

(b) if so, the name of the places where such dry ports facilities have been provided; and

(c) the other places in the country identified for the location of dry ports?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Government has considered providing facilities for inland exporters such as customs examination, issue of negotiable shipping documents, payment of duty drawback, export inspection, at suitable inland locations.

(b) For this purpose, inland container depots (ICD) have been set up at Delhi, Bangalore, Coimbatore, Guntur and Anaparty.

(c) Amingaon in Assam and Ludhiana in Punjab have been identified for setting up FCDs.

Supply of good quality coal to Power Houses

805. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a directive has been issued by his Ministry to power houses and coal mines to enter into agreement for supply of quality coal to power houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of power houses which have since entered into such agreements;

(d) the way in which Government propose to check the time old problem of inferior coal with high percentage of ashes and stones which is the basic reason for fall in production of power and damage to the power units; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). A model draft agreement to be entered into by Coal Companies and State Electricity Boards for coal supplies to power houses was circulated by the Deptt. of Power to all Electricity Boards. This draft agreement contains provisions relating to joint sampling and analysis, terms of pay-