

6. Uzbekistan
7. China
8. Nepal
9. Brazil
10. Qatar
11. Poland
12. Nigeria
13. Germany
14. Ukraine
15. Russian Federation

(c) In Saudi Arabia, the construction of the building is in progress and is scheduled to be completed in February, 1996. The preliminary plans for construction in the above countries, except Bangladesh, are ready and planning is proceeding towards construction stage. For construction in Bangladesh, the requirements are under discussions with the Architect.

*[English]*

#### **Production of Steel**

3287. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the target of steel production by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether a large number of mini steel plants have been closed down; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The anticipated production of finished steel by 1996-97, the terminal year of Eighth Five Year Plan, is about 23.8 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). As on 27.10.95, out of the total 183 commissioned Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) units, also known as mini steel plants, 92 units were reported to be closed. The EAF industry is characterised by a predominance of Small Sized furnace which are not able to adopt modern technological features. Coupled with this, labour, financial and managerial problems faced by these units led to the closure of a number of units over a period of time. In addition, their performance has been adversely affected by the rise in the international prices of scrap which constitutes their basic raw material and other factors like high power tariff.

*[Translation]*

#### **Fall in Level of Ground Water**

3288. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent some schemes for raising ground water level in some districts of the State;

(b) if so, the number of schemes sent alongwith the estimated cost;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to accord clearance to the schemes on priority basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five schemes estimated to cost Rs. 2500.28 lakhs have been sent by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d). The schemes have been sent for technical scrutiny to the Central Ground Water Board who are processing them in consultation with the State Government.

#### **Fertilizer Plants in U.P.**

3289. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals to set up fertilizer plants in Uttar Pradesh are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the project-wise/location-wise details thereof; and

(c) the time by which approval would be accorded to these projects/proposals?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued by the Government on 24th July, 1991, no industrial licence is required for setting up a fertilizer plant. The entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in India, subject to environment clearance. Public Sector/Co-operative units under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers, however, have to obtain the approval of the Government for incurring capital expenditure over and above their delegated financial powers. No such proposal is pending in the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.