

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government of Kerala have submitted any proposal in this regard;

(f) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(g) whether the Union Government have demanded any compensation for the property and assets left behind by these Indians in Kuwait and other Gulf Countries?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI).** (a) 1,47,839 Indians are estimated to have returned from the Gulf with the assistance of Govt. of India.

(b) Kuwait: Approx. 150

Iraq: None

Saudi Arabia: Not available

(c) and (d) The Government of India have not so far embarked upon any scheme to rehabilitate the repatriated Indians from Gulf Countries. As regards the return of our nationals Government of India has taken up the matter with Government of Kuwait and our people have started going back. In addition, Govt. have also liberalised emigration procedures.

(e) and (f) The Government have received a memorandum from Chief Minister of Kerala referring to, inter alia, the measures for early rehabilitation of the returnees and setting up of a committee and fund for this purpose. These recommendations are under consideration.

(g) According to the relevant UN resolutions, Iraq is liable to pay compensation. The information on claims for compensation from Indian nationals is presently being collected and such information in consolidated manner will be submitted to the UN Compensation Commission. As regards recoverable assets our nationals will be given all possible assistance.

**Shortage of High and Medium Grade Manganese**

315. **SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state.

(a) whether some of the Manganese Alloy producers have been forced either to cut down production or shut down furnaces due to shortage of high and medium grade manganese;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the shortage?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):** (a) to (c) There was no shortage of manganese alloys required for steel production in the country during 1990-91. Some units of manganese alloy producers, on some occasions, may have faced shortage of manganese ore which could also be as a result of absence of planning, inadequate stocks to take care of fluctuation in ore supplies, etc.

**Telephone Connections in Chandigarh, Manimajra and Panchkula**

316. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL.** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) the total number of telephone connections provided to Chandigarh, Manimajra and Panchkula;

(b) the number of new lines provided in those places during the last three years; and

(c) the total number of personnel working in the Department at Chandigarh before and after the increase in the number of lines?