

(a) whether five intergrated steel plants under Steel Authority of India Ltd. have registered 7.3 per cent increase in production of saleable steel during the first quarter of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons for such an increase; and

(c) whether this is going to be maintained and improved still further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for increased production are better technological management, consistent use of imported coal in some plants and commissioning of some of the expansion units at Bhilai Steel Plant.

(c) Yes, Sir. The production plan for 1985-86 for saleable steel of the Steel Authority of India Limited Plants (including Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited) envisages an increase of 73% over the production in 1984-85 as indicated below :

	(million tonnes)
Production Plan for 1895-86	5.96
Production during 1984-85	5.28
% increase over 1984-85	13%

[*Translation*]

**Detonators missing from Western Coalfields**

2808. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :  
SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that detonators from Western Coalfields are missing;

(b) the names of the persons found guilty therefor and the action taken against them; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) A shortage of Detonators has been reported at the Sukri colliery of Western coalfields Limited.

(b) The Magazine-in-charge, Shri Kunthunath Jain, has been arrested and has been placed under suspension. The chowkidar of the Magazine has also been suspended and chargesheeted.

(c) The coal companies have been directed to guard explosives and detonators carefully and to conduct regular verification of stocks.

#### Value of Seized Smuggled Goods

2809. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value and the details of the smuggled goods seized during the last six months;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(c) the new steps taken by the Government to check smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Details of major items of smuggled goods seized and the number of persons arrested under the Customs Act, in connection with smuggling activities during the period January to June, 1985 are given below :

	(Value : Rs. in crores)
Gold	28.45
Watches	3.78
Synthetic Fabrics	9.22
Indian/Foreign currency	3.45
Others	40.77
	<u>85.67</u>

No. of persons arrested : 1300\*

(\*Figures are provisional)

(c) The drive against smugglers has been intensified. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs department has been reinforced in terms of manpower and