

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. 35,000 tonnes of billets imported by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC) in 1986 as Canalising Agency on account of SAIL from Turkey did not conform to the specified chemical composition.

(b) MMTC had ordered the imports under their usual terms and conditions. The intended purpose for the import was to use it for making light structurals at the Bhilai Steel Plant.

(c) The billets have been used for alternative purposes at Durgapur Steel Plant and by Indian Railways.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The material supplied by the foreign supplier was not in terms of the contract. SAIL has lodged its claim on MMTC. MMTC had also put the foreign supplier on notice for not honouring the contractual requirement of supplies.

Computer Managed Maintenance System of Steel Plants

9275. **PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :**

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

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited is implementing, with the assistance of UNDP, a project for intergrated computer managed maintenance system in its units starting with the Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) whether Government propose to provide the same equipment to other steel plants also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work will be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Under its second Phase of the Project, it is proposed to be extended to Bhilai, Bokaro and Durgapur Steel Plants. Details of Phase-II have not yet been finished.

Rice Production in Seventh Plan

9276. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for the production of rice during the Seventh Plan and achievement made as on 31 March, 1987;

(b) whether there is a need to grow hybrid rice in order to achieve the Seventh Plan target;

(c) if so, the efforts made in this direction;

(d) what other steps are proposed to be taken to increase rice production during the Seventh Plan; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) The Seventh Plan (1989-90) target of rice production is 73.00-75.00 million tonnes. Total rice production in the country during 1986-87 was 60.42 million tonnes.

(b) The production potential of hybrid rice is under test by the ICAR.

(c) The Indian Council of Agriculture Research has intensified research on development of hybrid rice at six selected research centres. Comprehensive yield trials of FI hybrid are planned to be conducted during kharif 1988 for the suitability and adoption to specific regions.

(d) and (e). For increasing the production of rice during the Seventh Plan, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Special Rice Production Programme" has been launched from 1985-86 in six Eastern States. Under this scheme various incentives are being provided to the farmers. During 1988-89 under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme special efforts are being made to increase production of rice in 106 selected districts in 13 States. Besides a Central Sector Minikit Programme of rice is also under implementation in the country.