

Shifting of CMO of SAIL from Calcutta to Delhi

10066 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Marketing Organisation (CMO) of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is likely to be shifted gradually from Calcutta to Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government of West Bengal has brought it to the notice of Union Government that his move is likely to considerably affect the Steel Industry in Calcutta; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government of West Bengal had in September, 1987 brought it to the notice of this Ministry that any move to shift the headquarters of CMO from Calcutta to Delhi would not benefit SAIL and would cause severe hardship to its employees if they were redeployed. The State Government were informed that there was no move to dismantle the CMO Headquarters at Calcutta.

Plantation of Trees in Mining Areas of Himalayas

10067. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spread of dust is on the increase in the mining areas of Himalayas;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to check air pollution and plant trees like pine and cedar in the mining areas of Himalayas to arrest the aerial spread of dust; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers to Increase Production

10068. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated to the States and utilized so far under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production, State-wise;

(b) the number of farmers benefited under the scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the target fixed for the remaining period of the Seventh Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). State-wise total Central grants released to the States and utilised so far alongwith the number of farmers benefited under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production are given in the statement below.