

(a) whether the Department of Steel has decided to allow import of 2.5 million tonnes of prime coking coal for the integrated steel plants ;

(b) if so, whether the import is to meet the shortfall in the domestic production of prime coking coal ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) to (c). The import of coking coal depends upon the total indigenous availability, the level of hot metal production and on the need for improved technological performance in steel plants. As per current indication, integrated steel plants are expected to import around 4 million tonnes of prime coking coal in the current year.

**Production of Longer Length Rails by
Bhilai Steel Plant**

2466. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of Bhilai Steel Plant proposes to start manufacturing longer length rails and head-hardened rails to help upgrade the Indian Railway's track network ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Bhilai Steel Plant is proposing to start manufacture of longer rails of 26 m. length along with the conventional 13 m. length rails being currently produced there. Bhilai Steel Plant also proposes to produce some head hardened rails as per Railway's requirement and specification. This will be achieved by augmentation of existing finishing facilities and certain modifications in existing layout which will enable production of longer length rails and at the same time increase production, inter alia of head hardened rails.

Production in Green Revolution Belt

2467. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production in the green revolution belt has reached its peak ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to increase production further in this belt ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Special Foodgrain Production Programme is being implemented in 14 States covering 169 potential districts. The focus would be on crops like Rice, Wheat, Maize, Arhar and Gram. A five pronged strategy has been suggested for increasing foodgrain production. They includes :

(i) Increased fertiliser use by 20 kg. of nutrients per hectare (kg./ha)

(ii) Use of improved high yielding variety seeds.

(iii) Better management of weeds and timely control of pests and diseases.

(iv) Harnessing ground water through tubewells, completing on-farm development works in command areas and completing the near completion irrigation projects and efficient use of the stored water.

**Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas to Wards
of Nationalised Banks' Employees**

2468. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Bangalore city ;

(b) whether the children of nationalised bank employees are not given admission in these vidyalayas ; and

(c) whether Government propose to treat the children of the nationalised bank employees at par with the defence personnel in the matter of admission in these vidyalayas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) There are 11