

Setting up Spong Iron Plant in Orissa

1208. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) propose to set up a one million tonne sponge iron plant at Daitari in Orissa;

(b) whether the sponge iron plant is proposed to be set up during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Steel Authority of India Limited to expedite the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). SAIL is at present examining the feasibility of setting up of a sponge iron plant at different locations in the country, including Deitari in Orissa.

Salary to Non-formal Teachers

1209. SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly allowances (salary) prescribed for the non-formal teachers;

(b) whether the non-formal teachers are to coach the regular classes from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M without adequate remuneration; and

(c) whether any increase in their allowances is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a). Instructors in Primary Level Non-Formal Education Centres are paid an honorarium of Rs. 105/- per month and in Upper Primary Level Non-Formal Education Centres Rs. 125/- per month.

(b) No, Sir. The Scheme envisages that dedicated persons from the local community will serve as non-formal education instructors for which they are to be paid only an honorarium. The hours of non-formal

centres are not fixed but they usually work for about two hours a day at times suitable to the learners.

(c) No, Sir.

Design of Varapuzha Bridge

1210. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the design of the Varapuzha bridge in Cochin has been approved;

(b) if so, estimated cost of the bridge;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in finalising the design?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Although the outline design of the bridge has been prepared, the project could not be finalised as it involves finalisation of alignment of approach road on either side and acquisition of additional land. Investigations have shown that as the soil is poor and incapable of supporting high embankments, viaducts will have to be provided on either side for which also the design is to be finalised.

Area Under Cultivation

1211. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the net sown area in different States of India, in 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85; and

(b) the net irrigated area during the same period and percentage of the irrigated area to net sown area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). A statement on net sown area, net irrigated area and its