

position in international competition.

Industrial Tribunal Verdict on Dismissed DTC Employees

2466. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers of the Delhi Transport Corporation suspended and dismissed during the strike of March, 1988;

(b) whether the Industrial tribunal has given its verdict in favour of the dismissed employees; and

(c) if so, the total amount to be paid by the Delhi Transport Corporation as interim relief to the workers in order to comply with the court orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 3125.

(b) and (c). The Industrial Tribunal, Delhi on applications filed by about 198 dismissed employees seeking interim relief passed an order on 5-7-1989 for payment of interim relief to them at the rate of 50% of their pay, without prejudice to the merit of the case and also subject to the adjustment of this payment against any payments that become due on final outcome of the case. DTC has decided to contest the said order as according to them, such payments are not payable.

[*Translation*]

Pak proposal to Reduce Armaments

2467. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI:
SHRI PARTAPRAO B.
BHOSALE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Pakistan to have bilateral talks in regard to reducing armaments by both the countries; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b). No detailed or specific proposals have been made by Pakistan for arms reduction by India and Pakistan. Government feel that it is in the mutual interest of the two countries to take steps that would improve the climate in the relations between the two countries leading to reduction in their defence spending so that scarce resources could be diverted to development activities.

[*English*]

Inclusion of Rivers in Orissa under National Waterways Network

2468. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal to include some rivers in Orissa under the national Waterways network have been under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether the inclusion of river Brahmani is one of them; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Inland Waterways Authority of India to consider those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Mahanadi river in Orissa is one of the river systems identified for development as a National Waterway depending on techno-economic viabil-

ity and confirmation of navigability through surveys.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The studies on river Mahanadi are planned in the 8th Five Year Plan Period.

Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant with the help of West Germany

2469. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

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

(a) whether Government are modernising the Rourkela Steel Plant with aid from the Federal Republic of Germany;

(b) if so, the aid proposed to be given by the Federal Republic of Germany for the purpose;

(c) the amount of aid that has already been received; and

(d) the number of instalments in which the remaining amount would be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (d): Government are considering a mixed credit offer from the Government of Federal Republic of Germany for an indicated amount of DM 660 million for the modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant, No final decision on the terms of the financial assistance from FRG has so far been taken and therefore, no aid has yet been received.

Exploitation of Gypsum and other Minerals in J & K

2470. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN

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

(a) whether there are huge deposits of Gypsum and other minerals in Parlanka of Dhamkund Ramban, (Jammu and Kashmir);

(b) whether these deposits are bound to be submerged consequent upon the completion of Sawalkot hydel power project; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Union government to exploit these deposits well in advance before these are submerged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of the Central Advisory Committee

2471. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee set up by the Central Advisory Board of Education has submitted its report regarding Housing facilities to be provided to women in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). A Sub-Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education has, *inter alia*, recommended that, in order to provide housing facilities for women teachers in rural areas:—

(i) Efforts may be made to take