

Reinstatement in Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant

6183. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all employees discharged without proceedings from (Durgapur Mishra Ispat Ltd.) after 1972 have not yet been reinstated; and

(b) if so, when are they going to be reinstated?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). All the employees discharged without proceedings from the Durgapur Mishra Ispat Ltd. after 1972 have not been reinstated. The present policy is to reinstate only those discharged without proceedings for certain specific reasons during the Emergency and seven employees covered by this policy decision have been reinstated. One of the unions has, however, put up a demand for the reinstatement of all employees whose services have been terminated since 1972 and the management is holding discussions with the union on this issue.

Power shortage in Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant

6184. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether production in Durgapur Mishra Ispat Limited is suffering because of chronic power shortage;

(b) whether Government propose to build captive power plant for steel plant and special steel plant in Durgapur and

(c) relief contemplated by Government to workers whose real income has gone down because of power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) During the current financial year, there has been some loss of production in Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant because of restrictions in supply of power by Damodar Valley Corporation. However, the plant has been able to fulfil its production target by suitable adjustment of the operation of the different production units, within the total availability of power.

(b) The general question of allowing captive power units to power intensive industries is under consideration by the Government and a decision on this is likely to be taken shortly. There is, however, no specific proposal under consideration so far as the steel plants at Durgapur are concerned.

(c) This does not arise as the production target has been fulfilled.

Opening of an Office of Regional Passport Officer in Madhya Pradesh

6185. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening an office of the Regional Passport Officer;

(b) whether opening of R.P.O. office in Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the name/names of places proposed for the purpose in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) The criteria for opening a Regional Passport Office are:

- (1) the number of passport applications expected to be received by it from the areas under its jurisdiction will be at least 30,000 per year;

- (ii) the inconvenience to the public in States which do not have an office already; and
- (iii) considerations of economy in Government expenditure, particularly non-Plan expenditure.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have suggested Bhopal as the location for the Passport Office.

Shortage of Doctors in Meghalaya

6186. SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of doctors in Meghalaya; if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken;

(b) the number of doctors working at present in Meghalaya; and

(c) the number of Hospitals/Primary Health Centres/Dispensaries with and without doctors in Meghalaya?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

S.T.D. facility between Bhiwandi and Bombay

6187. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum, requesting S.T.D. facility between Bhiwandi and Bombay;

(b) if so, when this S.T.D. facility is likely to be made available; and

(c) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) S.T.D. between Bhiwandi and Bombay is already working since 15-8-76.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above question does not arise.

Reduction in seats in Goa Medical College

6188. SHRI EDUARDO FAIEIRO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of seats for admission in the Goa Medical College has been reduced during the current academic year and if so, the extent of reduction and reasons therefor;

(b) whether representations have been received against such reduction of seats and if so, when; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) On the basis of an inspection of the Goa Medical College, Medical Council of India have recommended that the number of admissions in the college be reduced from 60 to 50.

(b) and (c). Representation received in July, 1977 regarding restoration/increase in number of seats is under consideration of the Medical Council of India.

Opening of Posts and Telegraphs office

6189. SHRI EDUARDO FAIEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities proposed to be provided by Post and Telegraphs Department in the year 1977, 1978 in Goa;