

research is, however, being conducted for cure of certain diseases through Yoga at a number of Centres. In addition, steps are also being taken to develop the Central Research Institute for Yoga and Vishwiyatan Yogasbram, New Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Production of Steel**

4824. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the total loss in steel production during the last six months due to non-supply of coal and the remedial measures taken?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): Only in the months of October and November, 1977 there was a short-fall in steel production, partly on account of shortages of coal. It is, however, not possible to quantify the loss in production on account of shortage of coal alone since production was also adversely affected by some other factors viz., power restrictions/interruptions etc.

Constant liaison is being maintained with the coal producing organisations and the Ministry of Energy who have assured that the requirements of coal and power in the coming months would be fully met. Implications of importing low ash coking coal for blending with Indian coal for use in steel plants to increase productivity is also under examination.

#### **Gold, Nickel, Copper deposits in off-shore areas.**

4825. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the geologists, there are possibilities of gold, nickel, copper and cobalt deposits in the off-shore areas in exploitable quantity;

(b) if so, whether any assessment regarding these deposits in the sea-bed in different areas in the country has been made; and

(c) if so, with what results and the steps taken by Government to exploit these deposits

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) "Placer deposits" of gold and concentration of nickel, copper and cobalt in the manganese nodules are known to occur in off-shore areas in different parts of the world.

(b) and (c), Preliminary investigation to a very limited extent carried out in off-shore area of the Orissa Coast to locate "placer deposits" of gold has not indicated any gold.

During the current field season (1977-78) the Geological Survey of India proposes to carry out exploration for off-shore mineral deposits in the eastern and western coast of this country. The question of exploitation of such deposits is at this stage premature.

#### **Utilization of imported oil fired Cornish boiler by Government Medical Stores Depot, Madras**

4826. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an imported oil fired Cornish Boiler was purchased a decade back worth about Rs. 3 lakh at Government Medical Stores Depot, Madras;

(b) whether this Boiler has been put to use; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken against those responsible for its being out of commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) An imported oil fired Cornish Boiler was purchased in 1965/1966 at an expenditure of Rs. 78,750.00 excluding sales tax freight etc.

(b) No.

(c) The Boiler was originally obtained as a part of the Scheme to set up the manufacture of parental preparations in Madras. However, the very existence of Depots was questioned in 1966 and once again in 1969 and the scheme remained on the shelf. In the meantime two huge factories have come up in Madras for the manufacture of Transfusion Fluids which make supplies all over the country. It is not considered advisable or economical to set up any unit for production of Transfusions in Madras. It is proposed to transfer the Boiler to the Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi.