

(d) steps taken by Government to settle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No, Sir

(c) Some students of the Vallabh-bhai Patel Chest Institute had staged a relay hunger-strike outside the residence of Minister for Health and Family Welfare, to press their demands for the introduction of Residency Scheme/grant of scholarships to them. Some members of the academic staff of the Institute had also forwarded a jointly signed letter in protest against the delay in introducing the University Grant Commission scales to them stating *inter-alia*, that this letter may be treated as their three month's notice for resignation effective September 1, 1977

(d) Arrangements have been made for the payment of scholarships at the rate of Rs 400 per month during the current financial year to the students of Diploma in Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases and MD (Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases) of the Institute

The request of the academic staff of the Institute for the grant of University Grants Commission scales to them was considered by a Group consisting of the representatives of the Director General of Health Services, Vallabh-bhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi and the University Grants Commission. This group recommended that before the University Grants Commission scales of pay could be introduced, it would be desirable if the University of Delhi could consider designating the posts of Assistant Director, Senior Research Officers and Junior Research Officers of the Institute as Professors, Readers and Lecturers according to its rules. The decision of the Delhi University in respect of 5 posts only has been received so far and their decision in respect of the remaining posts is awaited.

Aluminium Plant on the East Coast

1549. SHRI P K KODIYAN Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal under consideration to set up an aluminium plant on the east coast,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether financial and technological assistance from foreign countries have been sought for this proposed project, and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) (a) and (b) The proposal to set up export oriented alumina/aluminium plants based on East Coast bauxite deposits is under consideration. The exact scope of the project will depend on the likely demand and on the results of feasibility studies which are expected to be commissioned shortly.

(c) and (d) As the size of the projects will be large and as the projects are being envisaged primarily for export of the products foreign technological collaboration and financial assistance will be necessary. For one of the two projects, an agreement has recently been reached with the USSR authorities for preparation of a detailed feasibility study with a view to establishment of an alumina plant on "production cooperation" basis, involving the export of alumina. For the other project the offers of well-known foreign aluminium manufacturers and their associates for preparation of a feasibility study are under consideration.

Non-Implementation of Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972

1550 SHRI L L. KAPOOR Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations about the diffi-

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 culties in, and non-implementation of the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972,

(b) if so, the nature of such difficulties and the nature of complaints about non-implementation, and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR RAM KRIPAL SINHA) (a) to (c) The requisite information is awaited from the authorities concerned and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha after it is received

Yearly Production of Steel in Public Sector Undertakings

1551 SHRI L L KAPOOR Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the break-up of yearly production of various types of steel by the public-sector Steel Plants during the period from March 1971 to March 1977,

(b) the total quantity of steel sold as scrap during that period and

(c) method of sale of such scrap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) (a) Statements I to VI showing the production of various types of steel at the public sector steel plants at Bhilai, Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro during the years, 1971-72 to 1976-77 is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-1176/77] Similarly information in respect of the Burnpur Plant of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Mill-wise Requirement of Refractory Material of Public Sector Steel Mills

1552 SHRI L L KAPOOR Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the total yearly requirement of the public sector Steel Mills for the refractory material, mill-wise,

(b) the total refractory material supplied by indigenous manufacturers and the quantity imported, and

(c) whether indigenous know-how for manufacture of such material is sufficiently developed so as to provide captive refractory units with each public sector Steel Mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) (a) The present (1977-78) yearly estimated requirement of refractory materials by the public sector steel mills is as follows —

	Tonnes
1 Bhilai Steel Plant	1 64 060
2 Durgapur Steel Plant	81 270
3 Rourkela Steel Plant	70 690
4 Bokaro Steel Ltd	14 250
5 Indian Iron and Steel Co (IISCO)	92,120.
6 Alloy Steels Plant	9,280
7 Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Ltd (VISTL)	29,170
TOTAL	4 89 840

(b) The total refractory materials supplied by indigenous manufacturers to the public sector steel mills during 1976-77 was about 4,27 000 tonnes. Refractory material imported during 1976-77 was about 17 000 tonnes only

(c) Indigenous know-how for manufacture of refractory material is adequately developed except for some spe-