

sician, Smt. Padmaben Desai, acting as the Prime Minister's Official Hostess and Shri Kantibhai Desai as the Prime Minister's son to assist him in his personal needs. Both Smt. Padmaben Desai and Shri Kantibhai Desai made their own travel arrangements and Government did not incur any expenditure on that account. Government of India paid for the passage of Dr. Dhanda. In her capacity as the Prime Minister's Official Hostess Smt. Desai was entitled to incur expenditure on entertainment from Entertainment Grants sanctioned for the Prime Minister's foreign visit. She was also entitled on Government account to accommodation/cash allowance. However, she did not incur any expenditure on these accounts. Dr. Dhanda was also entitled to accommodation/cash allowance on Government account.

Closure of India news in London :

2735. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK;
SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA;

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Weekly Journal 'India News' was stopped sometime back by the Indian High Commission in London;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to resume this publication; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) The Weekly Journal 'India News' published by the High Commission of India, London had stopped publication on February 23, 1974.

(b) The Journal was discontinued as an economy measure.

(c) and (d). The High Commission's Weekly Journal 'India News' recommended publication on June 1, 1978 and is being published regularly since then.

Demand and production of iron and steel and allied metals

2736. SHRI A. R. BADRI NARAYAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirements of iron, steel and other allied metals in the country;

(b) the total overall production in several factories—public and private; and

(c) how is shortfall if any, proposed to be made up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) The term "allied metals" is not clear. In the absence of names of the specific metals, it is not possible to give the requisite information in respect of "allied metals".

During the current financial year, domestic demand of saleable steel as projected by the Working Group on Iron and Steel is estimated at 7.61 million tonnes and for pig iron at 0.945 million tonnes.

(b) According to the production plan drawn up by SAIL, 1.541 million tonnes of pig iron will be available from the integrated steel plants. As regards saleable steel, production from the integrated steel plants and the mini-steel plants is expected to be about 9 million tonnes during the current financial year.

(c) Though over-all availability of steel is expected to be in excess of the demand, there might be shortfalls in certain categories which would be made up through imports.