

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Allotment of Steel to Orissa for Power Projects

4664. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details regarding the quantity of steel allotted to Orissa for its various power projects during last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that difficulties are experienced in the procurement of steel of different grades viz. rounds torsteel and flats required

for various power projects in the State; and

(c) if so, what action Government proposed to take to meet the shortage of these items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Steel produced by the main steel plants is at present being distributed in accordance with the Guidelines for distribution of Iron and Steel materials issued by the Joint Plant Committee. This does not provide for any State-wise allocations. Allocations are made for the Power Sector as a whole and the sub-distribution is done by the Central Electricity Authority. The Joint Plant Committee is monitoring supplies to Power Sector from October 1979 onwards. Details of allocation to Power Sector during October '79—March '80 and 1980-81 are as follows:—

(000 tonnes)

Category	Allocation during Oct. '79—March '80		Allocation during 1980-81		
	Domestic	Buffer Import	Domestic	Buffer Import	Processed import on back-to-back basis
Structurals	70.7	101.5	163.0	173.4	262.4
Bars & rods	15.6	..	48.7
Plates	23.1	13.0	30.8	23.0	39.2
Total	109.4	114.5	242.5	196.4	301.6

(b) and (c). In the case of Rounds, torsteel and flats, the production from the main steel plants forms only a small portion of the total, the balance coming from mini-steel plants and re-rollers, whose production is outside the regulation of the Joint Plant Com-

mittee. It is open to the State Electricity Boards and other consumers to procure their requirements from these sources also, in addition to whatever they get from the main steel plants. Imports of billets, rounds etc. are also made as and when necessary.