

### Delivery of Wheel and Axle Sets to Indian Railways by Durgapur Steel Plant

3624. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wheel and axle sets, the Durgapur Steel Plant had promised to the Indian Railways during the year 1981-82;

(b) out of these promised wheel and axle sets, how many were delivered to the Railways; and

(c) whether indigenously manufactured wheel sets from the Durgapur Steel Plant are adequate?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c). Durgapur Steel Plant had undertook to supply 18,132 wheel and axle sets (equivalent sets) to Indian Railways during 1981-82. The actual supplies were 13,807. The deliveries were less than the programme, and to that extent the performance of the Plant was inadequate.

### Private Investment in Core Sector

3625. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit private investment in core sector specially in the field of ship building, sponge iron and power; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYNA DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). Industries in Core Section are of importance to national economy and in-

volve sophisticated technology and heavy investment. Private investment in core sector of industries is governed by the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 and the press notes dated 2nd February, 1973 and 21st April, 1982. In accordance with these, industries in which private sector is eligible to invest include (1) construction of mechanised sailing vessels upto 10,000 DWT including fishing trawlers (2) sponge iron and (3) equipments for transmission and distribution of electricity including power and distribution transformers.

### Pension to Freedom Fighters

3626. SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large number of applications from freedom fighters pending with Government;

(b) if so, there number, State-wise and since when they are pending; and

(c) the action Government propose to take for their immediate disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKENTASUBBIAH): (a) to (c). A statement giving the statewide position of the applications received so far as on 31-7-82 is laid on the table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-5611/82*]. It will be seen that out of 424090 applications received, pension has already been sanctioned to over 123000 freedom fighters and their families and the claims of 122775 persons have been rejected. The total number of applications pending is 166253, which is mainly due to non-receipt of verification reports from the concerned State Governments and/or the requisite documentary evidence from the applicants. These cases will be finalised on receipt of entitlement reports from State Governments and the requisite proof of suffering from the applicants. The following steps have been taken to expedite the disposal of the pending cases:

1. More Staff in the freedom fighters division of Ministry of Home Affairs have been added.

2. Most of the State Governments/UT Administrations have set up Special Cells under supervision of Senior officers exclusively to process the verification of claims of Freedom Fighters.

3. All State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to initiate campaigns to clear all pending cases of pension of freedom fighters.

4. Most of the State Govts./UT Administrations have formed State/District Level Committees to help scrutinize the claims of freedom fighters. These Advisory Committees have a role in verification of the sufferings of freedom fighters, especially where the freedom fighters are unable to furnish any adequate documentary evidence in support of their sufferings, due to non-availability of records.

#### Setting up of a Cement Project in Bhimkund area of Maharashtra

3627. SHRI SALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL;

SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL;

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fairly large deposits of lime are located in the Chanaka-Bhimkund area of Yeotmal district of Maharashtra;

(b) whether State Government had applied for a cement project for being located in this area and the Planning Commission had communicated their oral approval at the meeting of the full licensing committee held on 6 February, 1982;

(c) whether it is also a fact that keeping in view the rich potential of the area, the State Government have already recommended to construct a

railway line between Chanaka and Vani so that the cement plant becomes viable; and

(d) if so, by what time the Centre will grant permission for linking the cement plant in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (d). An application for setting up a cement project with an annual capacity of 5 lakh tonnes of cement at Chanaka, Yeotmal District has been submitted by the State Industrial and Investment Corporation of Maharashtra Limited, Bombay. Planning Commission have supported the proposal from the limestone availability angle. While the State Government of Maharashtra had recommended construction of a railway line between Chanaka and Vani, the Ministry of Railways do not at present propose to extend the present new railway line beyond Pimpalkuti to Chanaka. A decision on the application will be taken having regard to the above factors and availability of coal to sustain the project on a long term basis.

Ashoka Paper Mills Limited

3628. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 448 on 6 October, 1982 regarding Ashoka Paper Mills Limited and state:

(a) whether both units of the Ashoka Paper Mills Limited have since resumed production and any responsibility has been fixed for its sickness;

(b) if so, details thereabout; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c). The units of Ashok Paper Mills are expected to resume production shortly. The mill was in a critical financial