

the case of export bills, the Bank has reduced the minimum amount of an individual usance promissory note to be lodged with the Bank from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 5,000.

Ordnance Factory, Kanpur

*969. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the Ordnance Factory, Kanpur;

(b) if so, the details of the expansion programme;

(c) whether the production has increased to a great extent as compared to 1958-59; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the expansion programme have not yet been finalised. A Project Report is expected to be ready by September, 1961.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The production has increased during 1959-60 as compared to 1958-59 by about 21 per cent.

West Bengal Security Act for Manipur

*970. { **Shri Vajpayee:**
Shri L. Achaw Singh:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has decided to extend the West Bengal Security Act, 1950 to Manipur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been any increase in the activities detrimental to the security of the country in that area; and

(d) if so, the nature of such activities?

The Minister in the Minister of Home Affairs (Shri B. N. Datar):

(a) The West Bengal Security Act, 1950, was extended to Manipur on 27th June, 1961.

(b) to (d). More or less similar laws are already in force in the Union Territories of Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. In Tripura also the West Bengal Security Act, 1950 is in force. These special measures provide for meeting activities which may be prejudicial to the security of the State and for the maintenance of public order etc.

Suicide in Rourkela Steel Plant

*971. { **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:**
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an operator of the Rourkela Steel Plant committed suicide by jumping into the blast furnace; and

(b) if so, whether reasons therefor have been ascertained?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Shri S. N. Misra, a Skip Operator in the Blast Furnace Department of the Rourkela Plant was on duty on the night of the 16th July 1961. At about 2:00 A.M. he was found missing from his post by the shift-in-charge. Later the same day, a letter said to have been written by Shri Misra to one of his friends was brought to the notice of the Local Police. This letter indicated his intention to commit suicide by jumping into the Blast Furnace. From this letter it also appears that he was not satisfied with the salary he and his colleagues were getting. The matter is being investigated by the Police. Hindustan Steel have also appointed a Committee to enquire into it.