

rial Development Corporation of Orissa have been granted a Letter of Intent on 8.9.70 for the manufacture of 100,000 tonnes of sponge iron and 80,000 tonnes of billets per annum. They have now applied for the grant of an industrial licence for an enhancement of the capacity to 300,000 tonnes of sponge iron and 240,000 tonnes of billets per annum. The application has been received in the Department of Steel on 29-5-71, and is being processed.

Rice Production

3631. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of rice produced in the country at present ;

(b) whether there has been any increase in rice production in the last three year ; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) The total quantity of rice produced in the country during 1969-70 was of the order of 40.42 million tonnes. Similar information for 1970-71 is not yet available.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The increase in production is due mainly to the introduction of the High-Yielding Varieties of rice which involves and option of new technology.

Handing Over of Kalkaji Colony, New Delhi to Municipal Corporation

3632. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the allottees of the East Pakistan Displaced Persons Colony at Kalkaji are required to pay house tax to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi from the day of registration of plots in their names;

(b) if so, the reason why the Department of Rehabilitation is not handing over the Colony to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi; and

(c) whether all civic facilities including street lighting are being provided by the Department of Rehabilitation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The East Pakistan Displaced Persons Colony at Kalkaji has not yet been handed over to the Corporation as some more plots still remain to be developed. They could not be developed so far on account of encroachment and litigation. The Colony will be handed over to the Municipal Corporation as soon as the development of the Colony is completed. Property tax is levied by the Corporation on vacant land and building in accordance with the provisions of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

(c) Water and electric supply for domestic purposes are adequately available in the Colony. Sewerage system is also functioning properly. As regards street lighting the Corporation undertakes to provide it only after 50% of the houses have been constructed in a particular area. According to the Agreements entered into by the allottees, 50% of the houses should have been completed by the end of May, 1971 but the progress in this regard has been very slow.

Sugar Factories in Cooperative Sector and money spent on them

3633. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :