

(c) the controlled price of sheet metal at present ;

(d) the price at which it was sold to the consumers in each State during 1969-70 and 1970-71 ;

(e) whether in a number of States, the consumers have to pay in some cases, more than double the controlled price ; and

(f) if so, the steps, being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) By "sheet metal", it is presumed that the Honourable Member is referring to "steel sheets". The demand for sheets is not available statewide.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, to the extent available

(c) and (d) . There is no statutory price control on sheets ; however, the bulk of the production of the main steel plants is sold at prices fixed by Joint Plant Committee, which is given below :-

*Joint Plant Committee Prices*

(Rs. per tonne)

	1.4.69 to 31 12 69	1.1.1970 onwards
H R. Sheets Tested (14 G & thicker)	1074	1177
C. R. Sheets Tested (14 G & thicker)	1324	1427
Galvanised Plain Sheets.	1804	1866

Note : 1) The above are base prices  
F. O. R. Rail head station.

2) There will be an extra of Rs.  
175 per tonne in respect of  
Galvanised sheets made out  
of Cold Rolled base metal.

(e) and (f) . Government is aware that open market prices are higher than Joint Plant Committee's prices, due to acute shortage of steel. In order to ensure that consumers get steel at reasonable prices, the distribution procedure has been streamlined and tightened up. Sustained efforts are also being made to increase production from the main Steel Plants and import of steel has been liberalised.

**Codification and Simplification of Labour  
Laws to Safeguard the Interests  
of Labour**

4250. SHRI BIREN DUTTA : Will the  
Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether labour laws in India are numerous and confusing to be of utility in safeguarding the interests of labour ; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating any plan for proper codification and simplification of labour laws ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND  
REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Government do not accept the view that the existing labour laws are too confusing to be utility in safeguarding the interests of labour.

(b) Government do not consider it practicable to integrate all the labour laws into a uniform code. However, the integration of a number of labour laws covering allied subjects is under contemplation.

**बिशाखापत्तनम और होस्पेट इस्पात कारखानों  
को न्यूना पत्थरों की सप्लाई**

4251. श्री मुल्की राजू सेनी : यह इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिशाखापत्तनम और होस्पेट स्थिति नये इस्पात कारखानों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में न्यूना पत्थर सप्लाई नहीं किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो चूना पत्थर कितना कम था ;

(ग) इन कारखानों के कार्यकरण पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है ; और

(घ) इन कारखानों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में चूना पत्थर की सप्लाई सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाह नवाज खान) : (क) से (घ). हास्पेट तथा विशाखापत्तनम इस्पात प्रायोजनायें अभी योजनावस्था में हैं। जब ये दोनों कारखाने उत्पादन करना आरम्भ कर देंगे उस समय इनको चूना पत्थर की कोई कमी होने की संभावना नहीं है।

**Non-Implementation of Coal Mines Wage Board Recommendations by Coal Mines Selling Coal to Railways**

4252. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Coal Mines which are selling coal to the Railways are not at all implementing the recommendation of the Coal Mines Wage Board ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government there to ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Railways purchase coal from those collieries which have secured Certificates of implementing the Wage Board's recommendations, from the concerned Regional Labour Commissioners. This excludes the A. R. T. & Co, Assam with which the Railways have a long term agreement.

**Food Target by 1981**

4253. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's food needs by 1981 will reach 160 million tonnes ;

(b) whether Government will have assessed the additional revenue that will be required for creating more irrigation facilities for achieving the 160 million food production ; and

(c) if so, the additional amount to achieve the irrigation target and the different project which will be speeded up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir. The Fourth Five Year plan gives a provisional projection of 167 million tonnes of food grain production by 1980-81

(b) It is provisionally estimated that in order to realise the target of agricultural production the gross irrigated area will need to increase to 58 m. hectares by 1980-81. The detailed programme for increasing the irrigated area in the above measure, the cost of the programme and the manner in which the resources will be mobilised have yet to be worked out in detail.

(c) Does not arise.

**Violation of Labour Laws as Reported by Railway Employees and Organisations**

4254. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway employees and their organisations in Jaipur Division of Western Railway have reported any cases of violation of Labour Acts to the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in respect of Industrial Disputes Act, Payment of Wages Act and Minimum Wages Act ;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during 1969-70 and 1970-71 ; and

(c) the action taken in regard to these complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House after it is received.