

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Compensation paid to workers of Giridih Collieries

7788. SHRI CHAPAL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers retrenched and/or voluntarily retired from Giridih Collieries since 1963;

(b) the total amount of compensation paid to these workers and the minimum and maximum compensation so paid;

(c) whether the workers who voluntarily retired were given the understanding by National Coal Development Corporation that in the matter of re-employment they would be treated on the same footing as the retrenched;

(d) the total number of newly employed persons all over National Coal Development Corporation Collieries since 1968; and

(e) the total number of retrenched workers lying unemployed in Giridih Collieries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of Kumar Iron Rolling Mills Ltd., Assam

7789. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kumar Iron Rolling Mills Ltd., Assam has been closed for a long time due to non-availability of raw materials such as billets etc.; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). M/s.

Kumar Iron and Steel (P) Ltd., Gauhati, closed down in 1968 due to labour trouble, financial difficulty and shortage of raw materials. The Company informed the Iron and Steel Controller in April, 1971 that they were able to settle their labour problems, and proposed restarting the mill.

Closure of Jersey Cattle Breeding Farm Project in Punjab

7790. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 12 lakhs Jersey cattle breeding farm project has been abandoned in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). Under the 4th Plan the State Government wanted to set up an exotic cattle farm with an outlay of Rs. 12 lakhs. While it was considered earlier that the breed should be Jersey, the State Government has since decided to set up a Brown Swiss Cattle farm under an Indo-Swiss Project.

In consultation with technical experts the State Government has earmarked Patiala and Sangrur districts for cross breeding with Brown Swiss. Accordingly, this breed will be developed at Patiala-Nabha.

Appointment of Chairman, National Commission on Agriculture

7791. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Commission on Agriculture is without a Chairman since January this year; and

(b) if so, when it will be possible for the Government to appoint a Chairman?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Shri B. Sivaraman who was appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Commission with effect from