

Bonus Act 1965 were received against some of the collieries.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the names of the collieries against whom prosecutions were launched for non-payment of bonus in the accounting years 1968 and 1969 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-438/17]

#### Views of States on Land Reforms Bill

2443. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have invited the views of the States regarding the Land Reforms Bill ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### Production of Steel

2445. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the demand for each category of steel in India during 1969-70 and 1970-71 and the anticipated demand for the current year ; and

(b) the quantity and value of production of each category of steel during 1969-70 and 1970-71 and the target for production for the current year ;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The Steering Group on Iron and Steel set up by the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Engineering, had estimated the domestic demand of finished steel at 5.0 million tonnes in 1969-70, 5.5 million tonnes in 1970-71 and at 6.05 million tonnes in 1971-72.

The category-wise break up of demand has been estimated by the National Council of Applied Economic Research for 1970-71, and by the Steel Group on Iron and Steel, for 1973-74. Two statements giving the two estimates are laid on the

Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-439/17]

Since these estimates become somewhat out of date, fresh estimates for demand of steel are being prepared.

(b) Information regarding the quantity and value of production of each category of steel during 1969-70 and 1970-71 by the main producers is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

The estimated production of finished steel by the main producers in 1971-72 is expected to be about 5 million tonnes.

#### Cotton Cultivation in West Bengal

2446. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether cultivation of cotton has been given top priority in West Bengal during the Fourth Five Year Plan period :

(b) if so, the total allocation under this head ;

(c) the results of the experimental cotton cultivation in the Sunderbans in 1969-70 and 1970-71 ;

(d) the programme for cotton cultivation in the Sunderbans South 24 Parganas for the current year ; and

(e) the total allocation on the account for the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) After initial trials conducted during 1969-70, a demonstration programme on cultivation of cotton was taken up in Rice fallows of Sunderbans area in West Bengal in 1970-71 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. It is proposed to expand the area under cotton during subsequent years of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(b) A sum of Rs. 14.10 lakhs was sanctioned during 1970-71. Further allocations will be made in the light of the experiences gained from the present demonstrations.