

(a) whether a number of iron and manganese ore mines are likely to be closed if effective steps are not immediately taken to move the ores to the ports of exports ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to tackle this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Government is not aware of any iron ore or manganese mine about to be closed down for want of wagons to move the ore to the ports.

However, the Government of India are fully aware of the gravity of the situation arising out of shortage of wagons for the movement of iron ore, manganese ore, etc., in the Bengal-Bihar area. This is mainly due to increasing thefts of railway equipment. Steps are being taken, in consultation with State Governments, to improve the position.

Provision of Tube-Wells for Irrigation to Rural Areas of Delhi

471. SHRI DALIP SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under consideration of Government to provide tube-wells for irrigation purposes in rural areas of Delhi ;

(b) if so, how much time it will take to implement this scheme ; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the Fourth Plan, it is proposed to instal 100 cavity shallow tubewells in rural areas of Delhi territory. Out of these 30 tubewells were installed during 1969-70 and another 30 tubewells

taken up during 1970-71 are nearing completion. The rest of the tubewells are proposed to be installed in the remaining period of the Fourth Plan. Besides, there is a programme for 3600 pumpsets installation (including about 2000 tubewells and 1600 pumpsets on dugwells) during the Fourth Plan through institutional and private investment. About 1800 tubewells/pumpsets were installed during the period 1969-70 and 1970-71 (upto 31.10.1970).

(c) Does not arise.

Issue of Licences for setting up of Mini Steel Plants

472. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA :
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of licences were issued by Government to start mini steel plants in the public and private sectors ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the total number and details of applications received from the private sector in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). A statement showing the details of all the applications recently received by Government for industrial licences for the manufacture of steel billets/ingots from ferrous scrap by conventional or continuous casting processes, and the present stage of their disposal is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No LT-210/71.*]

आन्ध्र प्रदेश में सोने की खान

473. श्री मोहन स्वर्ण : क्या इरावत और खान मंजी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आन्ध्र प्रदेश के एक गांव में एक नई सोने की खान का पता चका है ;