

of steel to the consumers by the steel plants both in the private and public sector at present;

(b) whether the re-rollers in the private sector are permitted to appoint their own agents for the sale of the steel bars, billets and end products;

(c) if so, under what conditions; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take or have taken to prevent any malpractices by the trade in the matter of sale of steel products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Most of the production of the Steel Plants both in the public and the private sector is supplied to actual consumers on the basis of the priorities accorded by the Steel Priority Committee on a quarterly basis. The balance is distributed through the producers' stockyards spread over the country to small consumers and to traders and stockists for resale purposes. For distribution of steel from the stockyards also there is an uniform policy evolved by the Joint Plant Committee. Billets are, however, supplied only to Registered Billet Re-rollers as per the allocation made by the Billet Re-rollers Committee, in accordance with an annual policy approved by Government.

(b) and (c). So far as the Registered Billet Re-rollers are concerned the products re-rolled from billets allotted to them by the Billet Re-rollers Committee are distributed in accordance with the directions of that Committee. Other re-rollers are free to dispose of their production in any manner they like.

(d) A small percentage of the production of the Steel Plants is earmarked every quarter for distribution to trade. There is no regulation of the re-sale of such material. However, complaints have been received that some materials allocated for actual use are finding their way to the open market. To prevent such malpractices, regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up in different parts of the country and one of their functions is to check misuse of steel. The Iron and Steel (Control) Order has also been amended to provide that utilisation of steel for purposes

other than that for which steel is allocated or applied for is now a violation of the Control Order and as such would attract the penal provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. In investigating such complaints, the assistance of CBI is also being taken wherever necessary.

#### Car Advance by E. F. F. O. Officials

2583. SHRI MD. JAMILURRAHMAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officials of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation having taken car advance to purchase cars and the particulars of the persons, their designation and scale of pay as on the 1st August, 1971;

(b) whether the officials posted at Jamshedpur, Ranchi and in the State of Kerala have taken prior permission to purchase the car;

(c) whether advance for the vehicles is allowed under the rules; and

(d) if so, the rules in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). The Provident Fund authorities have reported that the required information is not readily available with them.

(c) and (d). The Employees's Provident Fund Organisation generally follows the Central Government Rules on the subject.

#### Closure of Industrial Training Institutes in Delhi

2584. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:  
SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWLA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instructors of all the seven centres of Industrial Training Institutes in Delhi have been agitating for certain demands;

(b) if so, the nature of their demands;

(c) whether all these Training Centres have been closed down; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this respect to safeguard the interest of the trainees there?