

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The Government have already sanctioned the setting up of the Special Steels Project in the Defence Sector at Kanpur.

(b) A large number of alloy and special steels required for the modern armaments production will be produced in this Factory. The project will have a capacity of 16,400 tonnes per year of finished sections such as billets, small and medium sections, sheets, strips and so on.

(c) The work connected with the planning of the project has already commenced.

(d) The Government have sanctioned an estimated expenditure of Rs. 46.01 crores including Rs. 5.36 crores in foreign exchange to set up this Project.

Towers set up by Pindi along Truce Line in Jammu Area

822. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen the press reports in the "Hindustan Times" dated the 26th October, 1971 wherein it has been stated that Pindi have set up towers along the truce line in the Jammu area; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Developments across the border are taken into consideration in drawing up our defence plans.

Construction of Houses for Employees of Bharat Earth Movers, Bangalore

823. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to construct housing quarters for the employees of Bharat Earth Movers, Bangalore on a top priority basis ;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (c). Bharat Earth Movers Limited has two factories, viz., the Earth Mover Factory at Kolar Gold Fields and the Railcoach Factory at Bangalore. A housing colony for the Kolar Gold Fields factory has already been constructed. As regards the Railcoach Factory, about 420 employees of this factory are at present occupying quarters in the housing colony of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. have initiated action to acquire suitable land for building a housing colony for the Railcoach Factory at Bangalore also. However, in view of the need for economy in the present situation, the construction of the colony will have to wait for some time.

Mining of International Border from Rajasthan to Ladakh by Pakistani Troops

824. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently the Pakistani troops have heavily mined the entire international border from Rajasthan to Ladakh in violation of the ground rules;