

the present moment, Bokaro Steel Plant has no captive sources of iron ore or manganese ore.

(b) and (c). It is not essential that every steel plant should have captive ore mines. Iron ore for the first stage of Bokaro Steel Plant will be supplied by Kiriburu Mines which are managed and operated by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, a public sector concern. As the expansion of Kiriburu is still not complete, iron ore fines required for Bokaro Steel Plant are now being procured from other sources. No difficulty is envisaged in ensuring adequate supply of iron ore from Kiriburu at prices fair to both NMDC and BSL. Manganese ore is now being purchased from the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Limited. Bokaro Steel Limited has recently acquired mining lease of certain areas for raising manganese ore and these may ultimately become the main sources of the ore.

Employees State Insurance Hospitals

2459. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) how many Employees State Insurance Hospitals are now functioning in the country;

(b) the total bed strength of these hospitals; and

(c) the plans to open new hospitals in the next three years ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : The Employees State Insurance Corporation has furnished the following information :

(a) At present 47 Employees State Insurance Hospitals are functioning in the Country.

(b) The total bed strength of 47 Employees State Insurance Hospitals is 8,609.

(c) The Employees State Insurance Corporation has provided a sum of about Rs. 14.5 crores for the construction of

Employees State Insurance Hospitals, Annexes and Dispensaries in the next five years.

Growing Industrial Unrest in Bihar

2460. KUMARI KAMIA KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial unrest is growing in Bihar at a very high speed due to exploitation of workers by the 20 big business houses;

(b) whether Government are going to appoint a Committee of Members of Parliament to look into the affairs of the 20 big business houses; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be appointed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The Ministry of Labour have no information on this subject.

Assessment of Working of Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

2461. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have made any assessment in regard to the working of rehabilitation industries Corporation, Calcutta during the last three years;

(b) whether this Corporation has been running at a loss, if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the drawbacks ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The losses in the Corporation are mainly attributable to :-

(i) The five handloom weaving centres taken over from the Government of West Bengal are working as