

Cost of Indigenous Equipment for Bokaro steel Plant

658. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bokaro Steel Plant has to pay more for equipment from indigenous sources, particularly the Heavy Engineering Corporation than it would have done in case the equipments had been imported; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to write off that part of the capital costs which could be described as developmental costs inherent in a policy of maximising the use of indigenous equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The heavy engineering industry in the country being still in its infancy, it is possible that the prices of indigenous equipment are higher in some cases than the prices of similar imported equipment. In the case of equipment supplied by Heavy Engineering Corporation for the first stage of Bokaro Steel Plant the average price was fixed by the Government with reference to the cost of production.

(b) No, Sir.

Maltreatment to Indian Nationals in Uganda

659. SHRI P. GANGADEB: SHRI P. M. MEHTA.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uganda Asians have been treated badly by Uganda Government;

(b) whether a number of Indian Nationals have been murdered in the recent disturbances in Uganda; and

(c) whether Government have protested to Uganda Government in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government's views on the expulsion of Asians from Uganda have been set out in the statements made by Deputy Minister and Minister for External Affairs in Lok Sabha on August 11 and September 4, 1972 respectively.)

(b) Government are not aware of any such case affecting Indian nationals.

(c) Does not arise.

Payment of Compensation to Shareholders of Mines under the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Bill

660 SHRI P. GANGADEB: SHRI P. M. MEHTA.

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Mining Association has expressed its disappointment with the amount of compensation fixed for share-holders of mines in the recent Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Bill.

(b) whether the Association has pointed out that the 27,000 share-holders would be losers and some of them may not get anything at all; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No representation has been received from the Indian Mining Association expressing its disappointment with the amount of compensation fixed in the Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Bill.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.