

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN)** (a) There has been some improvement in the availability of wagons in certain areas. There has not been any significant improvement in the position of supply of indigenous equipment and spares.

(b) The production capacity of the N.C.D.C. mines is estimated to be over 18 m tonnes. The production in 1971-72 was 14.37 m tonnes. It is estimated that the production in the current year i.e. 1972-73 will be 15 m tonnes. In the year 1973-74 the production is expected to be increased to about 17 m tonnes. Thus efforts are being made to utilise the installed capacity and the production is being programmed accordingly keeping in view the estimated demand.

(c) The production from private sector collieries during 1971-72 was 46.30 (provisional) m tonnes, as against the estimated built-in capacity of about 51 m tonnes. The shortfall in production in the private sector has largely been due to transport difficulties.

**I A F accidents within permissible limits**

1458 **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the *Sunday Standard* dated the 29th October, 1972 entitled 'I A F accidents within permissible limits', and

(b) if so Government's reaction to it?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM)** (a) Government have seen the Press report

(b) Government are alive to the necessity for minimising aircraft accidents in the IAF. Each accident is

investigated by a Court of Enquiry and suitable remedial measures are taken on the basis of findings and recommendations of the Court of Enquiry.

**Discovery of Coal Deposits in the Indian Ocean**

1459 **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA**  
**SHRI RAM PRAKASH**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian Ocean has coal deposits near Australia,

(b) whether there is any proposal to exploit the Indian Ocean near our shore for coal deposits and

(c) if so the main features thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN)** (a) No Sir

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

**Visit of Chairman of Holding Company for Steel to Foreign Countries**

1460 **SHRI K LAKKAPPA**  
**SHRI P GANGADEB**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Chairman of the Holding Company for Steel had a delegation to the European Countries to study the structure and working of similar undertakings there

(b) if so the number of countries visited by them and

(c) whether they have submitted a report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Shri M. A. Wadud Khan, Secretary to Government and Chairman-designate of the Holding Company for Steel led a delegation to Italy, Sweden and France to study the structure and working of Holding Companies. Shri Wadud Khan also visited London for discussions with the Chairman of the British Airways Board.

(c) The report of the delegation is under preparation and is expected to be submitted to Government soon.

#### Labour disturbances in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1461. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were widespread labour disturbances in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands recently;

(b) if so, what were their demands; and

(c) the manner in which Government tackled that labour problem?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### Production, import and distribution of steel to States

1462. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of steel in India during the last three years and its State-wise distribution for domestic and industrial use, year-wise; and

(b) the amount of steel imported during the last three years and its State-wise allocation, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (b). Three statements are laid on the Table of the House. Placed in Library. See No. LT-3789/72.]

#### Prevalence of T.B. in Coal Mine workers

1463. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the allegation of Shri Pankaj Banerjee, Convener of Health Service, Coal and Mines, where he told that 39,000 workers of Coal Mines are suffering from T.B. and most of them are living in Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) the reaction of Government and the steps taken to save the workers from the disease; and

(c) whether these workers are being given treatment; if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### Bonus to Central Government Employees

1464. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: SHRI R. N. SHARMA:

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

(a) whether a scheme to grant Bonus to certain categories of the Central Government Employees is under the active consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision in this regard will be taken?