

(c) Investment (Green Book) as on 31st March, 1973 (Provisional).

	Rs. crores
Bhilai	401
Rourkela	405
Durgapur	265
Tata Iron & Steel Co.Ltd	330
Bokaro Steel Ltd	450

(d) Bhilai Steel Plant is being expanded to four million ingot tonnes and Bokaro Steel Plant to 4.75 million ingot tonnes. The feasibility of the expansion of the Jamshedpur Works of the Tata Iron & Steel Company is being studied.

During the last two years, a number of remedial measures have been taken to overcome the various shortcomings and impediments in the way of improved production. As far as the plants under Hindustan Steel Limited are concerned these include: specialised repairs of coke ovens, use of alternative fuels to supplement gas availability, oil firing in certain furnaces to augment fuel resources, improved maintenance aimed at better equipment availability, speeding up of capital programmes required to correct existing imbalances in production facilities, and planned procurement of spares, refractories and other essential materials. The Bhilai Steel Plant is putting up an additional coke oven battery and Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants half a battery each. The Action Committee of the Planning Commission has made a number of recommendations regarding additions and balancing facilities in the Bhilai and Rourkela steel plants which the plants have taken up for implementation. The Committee is now looking into the working of the Durgapur Steel Plant. A three-tier joint consultative machinery has been set up at Durgapur for speedy settlement of industrial disputes and grievances and to enlist the cooperation of the workers in maximising production. A new rewards scheme has been introduced in the Rourkela Steel Plant to provide an additional incentive for increasing production progressively.

Since the take-over the management of India Iron and Steel Company Limited by Government on July 14, 1972, a number of steps have been taken to solve its immediate problems and increase production. These include the supply of coke and coal tar, emergency repairs to coke oven, procurement of material handling equipment and repairs and replacements of cranes and other equipment in the Steel Melting Shop. A Plan Rehabilitation Scheme has been drawn up to restore the technical health of the plant and to enable it to produce one million tonnes of ingots. This scheme is under implementation.

Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd., are implementing a replacement programme for the old coke oven which, on completion, should ensure adequate coke supplies, special efforts are being made to strengthen maintenance.

Government have since set up the Steel Authority of India Ltd., the Holding Company for Steel and associated input industries which was incorporated on the 24th January, 1973. The setting up of this Company should also help considerably in maximising production of steel through effective supervision and coordination provision of specialised advisory services and vertical integration and coordination of the other sectors intimately connected with the steel industry in the role of major suppliers of inputs such as coking coal, iron ore, manganese, etc.

However, by the very nature of the operations involved in an integrated steel plant, the full impact of all these measures will be felt only gradually and over a period of time. The increase in production in the Hindustan Steel Limited plant last year is a pointer to what can be done.

Employees of Proof and Experimental Defence Installation at Balasore

3332. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees serving in the Proof and Experimental Defence Installation at Balasore; and

(b) what is the number of Oriyas there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHAKRAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Out of 674 civilians employed in Proof and Experimental Establishment, Balasore, 398 are Oriyas. In addition, there are 16 Oriyas amongst 438 Service personnel employed there.

~~Increase in production of Rourkela Steel Plant during 1972-73~~

3333. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rourkela Steel Plant has shown more production in 1972-73 as compared to the previous year; and

(b) if so, what is the monthly progress now after introduction of incentive scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) The Plant produced 1.177 M.T. of ingot steel in 1972-73, which was the highest since its inception.

(b) In addition to the incentive scheme which has been in vogue since December, 1961, a reward scheme was introduced in the month of July, 1972, for attainment of progressively higher targets every month. Production showed further improvement thereafter a rate corresponding to an annual production of 1.3 million Tonnes of ingot steel being attained in the last quarter of 1972-73. In the first four months of the financial year 1973-74, however, production was affected, as in other plants, by the power shortage which led to a curtailment of coking coal production. Shortages and frequency fluctuations in the supply of power to the plant affected rolling of

steel. The production of ingot steel in these four months was as follows:

April	87,500 tonnes
May	92,500 tonnes
June	90,900 tonnes
July	94,300 tonnes

Army Career for Youth

3334. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether Army career is not popular among Youth, as it was some years ago?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): No, Sir. There is adequate response from the Youth of the country for an Army career.

General Manager, Rourkela Steel Plant relieving himself of Administrative work to divert full attention to production

3335. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per recommendation No. 7 of the Lomba Committee Report, the General Manager of the Rourkela Steel Plant has relieved himself from the administrative nature of work of the plant to enable him to devote fully for the production of steel;

(b) if so, whether, after the assurance was given by the Steel Ministry to implement the above noted recommendations fully, certain administrative work has been taken back by the General Manager; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise