

Firms charged with misuse of steel quota

659. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise names and description of firms against whom there are charges of misuse of steel quota;

(b) the specific charges against each;

(c) what action, if any, has been or is being taken against the firms concerned; and

(d) whether any of these firms have been black-listed, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) to (d). Full particulars are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

British technical assistance for development of Indian Coal and Copper Mining Industries

660. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to request the British authorities for technical assistance for the modernisation, rehabilitation and development of the Indian Coal and Copper mining industries; and

(b) if so, the nature of assistance sought and the steps taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) and (b). In so far as a copper mining industry is concerned, no such request is proposed to be made.

In respect of coal mining industry, preliminary talks were held in October, 1973, in the United Kingdom by a team led by Secretary, Department of

Mines, during which possibilities of obtaining British assistance for the training of our personnel, supply of mining machinery etc., were discussed.

Purchase of mining equipment from U.S.S.R.

661. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI:

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

(a) whether Government propose to purchase mining equipment, including smelters, from U.S.S.R.; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Certain items of equipment for open cast mines of coal Mines Authority, such as draglines, shovels, drills, etc. are proposed to be imported under the Indo-U.S.S.R. Trade Plan. Similarly, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, have entered into an agreement with the U.S.S.R. for supply of a portion of equipment and material for the Korba Smelter and Fabrication Plant under the Credit Agreement between the Governments of India and U.S.S.R.

Reported Base of Mizo Rebels in Burma

662. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a news-item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 6th October, 1973 under the caption 'Mizo Rebel Base in Burma'?

(b) whether Government of Burma have been requested to uproot the base of the rebels from there; and

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