

(d) The terms and conditions accorded to Soviet experts are:

- (i) Monthly remuneration mutually agreed to by the two Governments.
- (ii) Insurance against professional risks or accidents during their stay in India.
- (iii) Travel expenses from Moscow to New Delhi and back by air.

(iv) Transport facilities from New Delhi to place of work in India and back, and for all other official trips.

(v) Furnished accommodation.

(vi) Medical facilities during their stay in India.

Increase in production of Steel

7180. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:

SHRI D. D. DESAI:

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

(a) whether at a meeting held recently of the various heads of steel production units in the country it has been decided to increase the production of steel in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum of steel to be produced in the country during 1974-75;

(c) the extent to which it shall meet the domestic needs of steel and would save the foreign exchange; and

(d) if not, the estimated need of steel to be imported even after increased production thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) to (d). It has been estimated that the domestic demand for mild steel during 1974-75 would be around 7.3

million tonnes. In the meeting of Chief executives of public undertakings held in March, 1974, the target for saleable steel production from the main steel producers for 1974-75 has been fixed at 5.044 million tonnes. A production of about 1.0 million tonnes is expected from mini steel plants etc. The resultant gap is likely to be bridged from imports which may be of the order of about 1.0 million tonnes, subject to the availability of the required foreign exchange.

Four Shifts a Day in Coal Mines

7181. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:

SHRI TARUN GOGOI:

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

(a) whether it has been reported in the Press that coal mines are to work four shifts a day;

(b) if so, the names of collieries where this system is being introduced;

(c) the extent to which such a system will be helpful in production of coal, meeting the domestic demand of coal and gas produced from coal; and

(d) the details of incentives, if any, offered to the workers for boosting coal production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) to (d). It has been decided that four-shift system should be introduced in suitable areas in consultation with the trade unions. As this system will enable the coal face to be worked continuously, it will result in increased production. The Coal Mines Authority Ltd. are working out the details of the scheme with a view to introducing it, as an experimental measure, in selected mines in the Eastern Division.