

**Contracts for Construction of Buildings, Roads, Aerodromes for Defence Services**

3884. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of contractors who have been given contracts by the Government for construction of buildings, roads, aerodromes for the Defence Services with contracts exceedings Rs. 10 lakhs during the period 1971 to 30th June, 1974.

(b) the amount involved in each case; and

(c) whether the work in each case has been completed in time and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Production of Polio Vaccine**

3885. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of funds to import monkeys, the production of polio vaccine has severely hampered; and

(b) if so, the extent of the shortfall in production and the steps being taken to tackle the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) No, Sir. The shortfall is mainly because of technological difficulties, occasional power failure etc.

(b) As against the installed annual capacity of 12.50 lakhs doses of trivalent vaccine, the actual production during 1972-73 and 1973-74 was 1,72,500 and 19,350 doses respectively.

Studies are in progress to determine and eliminate the factors responsible for the shortfall in production.

**Steel Production Target during Fifth Plan**

3886. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the target fixed for the production of steel during the Fifth Plan period and the steps being taken to achieve the target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): The steel development programme in the Fifth Five Year Plan has been drawn up in such a manner that about 10 million tonnes of saleable mild steel would be available by 1978-79 to meet the domestic demand. The existing integrated steel plants have a total capacity of 8.9 million ingot tonnes of steel equivalent to 6.5 million tonnes of finished steel per annum. The increased demand for steel by 1978-79 is proposed to be met through the expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant from its present capacity of 2.5 million ingot tonnes to about 4 million ingot tonnes and by the expansion of Bokaro on a continuing basis to a capacity of 4.75 million ingot tonnes. Thereby, an additional ingot capacity of 6.25 million tonnes, equivalent to 5.4 million tonnes of steel would become available. Taking into account the production build-up at Bhilai and Bokaro after the commissioning of the expansion schemes and the capacity utilization possible in the other integrated plants, it is estimated that finished steel available by 1978-79 from integrated steel plants would be about 8.8

million tonnes. The electric arc furnace units are expected to contribute to the availability of at least a million tonnes of bars and rods by the end of the Fifth Plan period. Thus, the total overall indigenous availability of mild steel by 1978-79 would be about 9.8 million tonnes, which would more or less meet the estimated domestic demand.

**Import of Spare Parts for Steel Plants**

3887. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is importing spare parts required for the Steel plants; and

(b) if so, the percentage thereof in the years 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73?

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

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Follow Up Action to Improve Relations with Iran**

3888. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any follow-up action with a view to improving relations with Iran after the visits to that country of the Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main proposals under consideration relate to development of iron ore mines in India and setting up of a pelletisation plant along with allied power and port facilities; setting up of an alumina Project in India for export to Iran; establishment of a joint Indo-Iranian Shipping line, and development of industrial capacities in India for exports to Iran. Preliminary discussions with the Iran authorities have taken place in July regarding the alumina project, and further discussions are envisaged shortly regarding this project, the iron ore project, increasing of industrial capacities and the joint shipping line. Requests have been received from Iranian authorities for recruitment of medical doctors, veterinary surgeons, handicraft, tea and fisheries exports, which are being processed. Ten mechanised fishing boats and crew have been sent to Iran for demonstration and training purposes. A long term trade agreement is being negotiated, and commercial contracts are being discussed for exports of various commodities and manufactured items.

**Increase in Tractor Prices**

3889 SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:  
DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to increase the selling price of tractors;

(b) the order of the increase;

(c) whether the Food and Agriculture Ministry was consulted; and

(d) the reasons for sanctioning the increase?