may work to 60/70 per cent of their capacity, if not more.

Glass Bangle Industry at Ferozabad

242. Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received complaints about non-availability of Soda Ash to the Glass Bangle Industry at Ferozabad (Agra, U.P.); and
 - (b) if so, the measures taken to ensure fair and adequate supplies and equitable distribution to various units of this industry?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A satisfactory arrangement of distribution of Soda Ash has been worked out after discussion with the manufacturers of Soda Ash and the Glass and Bangle Syndicate at Ferozabad.

Export Earnings

243. Shri Kapur Singh: Shri Kesar Lal:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

- (a) The total earnings in terms of quantity and cash from the export of tea, jute and cotton textile during the last four years; and
- (b) the reasons for decline in exports, if any?

The Minister of International Trade, (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [placed in Library. See No. LT-1452/63].

(b) Exports of Jute manufactures were generally higher in quantity and value during 1962-63 as compared to the previous years. The decline in quantity exported during 1960-61 and 1961-62 was due to shortage of raw jute etc.

Exports of Tea fluctuate from year to year. The slight decline in exports

of Tea during 1960-61 as compared to 1959-60 was due to shortfall in production on account of drought in North East India during the 1960-61 season. However, exports in 1962-63 were higher than in the previous years.

Exports of cotton textiles have, however, shown a downward trend, though during 1962-63 the fall in exports was less severe as compared to the previous years. The main reasons for decline in exports of cotton textiles are (i) establishment of textile mills in various countries (ii) the import restrictions imposed by newly liberated countries to foster local industry (iii) severe competition from China, Japan and Hong Kong (iv) a drift in consumers' preference to processed cloth, while our exports have been mainly in grey cloth; and (v) the foreign exchange shortage and the consequent restrictive import policy of underdeveloped countries.

Control of Rourkela Steel Plant

Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri P. K. Ghosh:
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Kasar Lal:
Shri Morarka:
Shri Ravindra Varma:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a recent agreement with the West German Ministry of Economics technical control of Rourkela Steel Plant has been made over to German technicians;
- (b) if so, what are the other details of the agreement; and
- (c) whether under this agreement German technicians will have the final say?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) No, Sir.

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