

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उस क्षेत्र का सर्वेक्षण पहले ही किया जा चुका है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार इस क्षेत्र में एक इस्पात, कारखाना स्थापित करने का है और यदि हां, तो इसके कब तक स्थापित हो जाने की सम्भावना है?

इस्पात, खान तथा धातु मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्र० चं० सेठी) : (क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश के चंडीगढ़ क्षेत्र में कच्चे लोहे के जिस निक्षेप का पता चला है वह परिमाण में बहुत छोटा है।

(ग) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

#### ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

2903. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Rourkela Steel Plant and Hindustan Steel Ltd. have entered into a contract with certain firms for the supply of iron ore and manganese without inviting tenders from other firms;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of firms with which the Steel Plant has entered into the above contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :

(a) to (c). Presumably the Hon. Member is referring to the contracts entered into between the Rourkela Steel Plant, Hindustan Steel Ltd., and Messrs. B. Patnaik Mines Ltd; Messrs. Misrilal Jain and Sons, and Messrs. Rungta & Sons. Pvt. Ltd., in July, 1966 for supply of iron ore and manganese ore on a long term basis. If so, the operation of the contracts with the three mine-owners has been taken over by M.M.T.C. since July 1, 1967. The entire transactions, including the reasons for not inviting tenders, have already been examined by the Committee on

Public Undertakings who submitted their Report in December, 1967.

#### NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2904. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the construction of some new railway lines to facilitate transport in the State;

(b) if so, the lines recommended; and

(c) the lines accepted for survey by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra Pradesh have recommended the following new railway lines for the Fourth Plan :

(i) Ongole-Hyderabad via Nagarjunasagar.

(ii) Bailadilla-Kothagudem.

(iii) Bhadrachalam Road to Kovvur.

(c) Engineering and Traffic surveys for a new line from Dantewara (Bailadilla) to Bhadrachalam Road and feasibility-cum-cost studies for the Bhadrachalam Road-Kovvur link have already been carried out.

#### IMPORT OF STUDIO EQUIPMENT AND RAW FILMS

2905. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for allocation of foreign exchange for the import of latest studio equipment and raw films for the producers in the State; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?