

1	2	3	4
		Sarojini Nagar H.O. New Delhi-23	2
		Indraprasth H.O. New Delhi-2	2
		Karol Bagh, New Delhi-5	1
		Delhi GPO, Delhi-6	1
		Chankyapuri, New Delhi	1
		Eastern Court, New Delhi	1
		Golf Links Post Office New Delhi-3	1
		Lodi Road Head Office New Delhi-3	1
		Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi	1
		New Delhi G.P.O. New Delhi-1	1
		Krishna Nagar Head Office, Delhi-51	1
		Ashok Vihar Head Office Delhi-52	1
4.	Karnataka	Bangalore G.P.O.	1
5.	Maharashtra	Azad Nagar Post Office Mahim Head Post Office Matunga Post Office	1 1 1
6.		Chennai G.P.O. Madurai H.O. Madurai Palace	1 1 1
Total			26

#### Shut Down of Blast Furnaces of Bokaro and Bhilai Steel Plants

1015. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has shut down two of its blast furnaces in Bokaro and Bhilai Steel Plants; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) One blast furnace in Bokaro Steel Plant has been shut down and another in Bhilai Steel Plant is to be shut down in February, 1997. The Plants propose to carry out capital repairs in these blast furnaces.

#### Udhampur-Jammu to Katra-Srinagar Railway line

1016. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a target was fixed for completion of

Rail line between Udhampur-Jammu to Katra-Srinagar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason for delay in completion of work alongwith the cost escalation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The target for completion of the project from Udhampur to Baramula via Katra and Srinagar has not yet been fixed.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Wages to Women Labourers

1017. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government about the number of women labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether women labourers are given minimum wages; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government for their upliftment and for prevention of exploitation by their employers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The findings of the survey have been published by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India in the Union Primary Census Abstract, 1991. State-wise numbers of women workers are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Government have enacted laws to ensure payment of equal wages to men and women. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, fixation of equal minimum wages for men and women in different employments is prescribed. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 further prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex between men and women workers in the same establishment or employment and for the same work or work of similar nature.

(d) Whenever any instances of violation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 or Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 come to the notice of the Government, necessary steps are taken immediately to rectify the situation. Periodic monitoring of the enforcement activities is carried out. Various programmes for the upliftment of women labourers are also being carried out by the upliftment of women labourers are also being carried out by the Government.

**Statement****State-wise Number of Female Labourers  
(1991 CENSUS)**

S.No.	State/U.T.	Total female workers including marginal workers
	India	89,767,563
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,252,643
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	149,789
3.	Assam	2,324,535
4.	Bihar	6,116,974
5.	Goa	117,977
6.	Gujarat	5,180,886
7.	Haryana	821,299
8.	Himachal Pradesh	888,985
9.	Karnataka	6,472,816
10.	Kerala	2,347,268
11.	Madhya Pradesh	10,430,890
12.	Maharashtra	12,617,454
13.	Manipur	350,134
14.	Meghalaya	302,853
15.	Mizoram	143,964
16.	Nagaland	215,722
17.	Orissa	3,241,991
18.	Punjab	418,646
19.	Rajasthan	5,744,129
20.	Sikkim	57,790
21.	Tamil Nadu	8,236,872
22.	Tripura	184,333
23.	Uttar Pradesh	8,019,310
24.	West Bengal	3,662,855
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16,584
26.	Chandigarh	29,443
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	32,944
28.	Daman & Diu	11,584
29.	Delhi	314,076
30.	Lakshadweep	1,906
31.	Pondicherry	60,911

**Note :** Census was not held in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

[English]

**Batteries and Ovens in BSP**

1018. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of batteries and ovens

functioning at present in the Coke Oven Plant of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP);

(b) the quantity and grade of coal needed for that, month-wise;

(c) the total hard coke produced during a year;

(d) whether the oven gas is wasted due to leakage in oven; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The total number of batteries and ovens functioning at present at Bokaro Steel Plant are 6 and 384 respectively.

(b) The present level of oven pushing with the above is 470 nos./day. The approximate coking coal needed per month is about 316,000 tonnes. The break-up of different categories is as follows;

Category	Quantity (Approx)
Prime Coking Coal	63,000 T
Medium Coking Coal	95,000 T
Total Indigenous Coal	158,000 T
Imported Coal	158,000 T
<b>Total Coking Coal</b>	<b>316,000 T</b>

(c) The total hard coke produced during 1995-96 at Bokaro was 2,189 MT and from April, 1996 to January, 1997 it was 2,048 MT.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

**Bonded Child Labourers**

1019. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the practice of employing bonded child labourers in the carpet industry has been going on in some States and Union-Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Decision to Change Postal Envelope**

1020. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal for change in the design of postal envelope;