

being taken back to duty with a break-in-service.

(b) As indicated in answer to part (a), only those employees would be covered by the instructions referred to therein as were merely absent from work on 19th September 1968. The instructions do not cover those employees who had committed other offences besides mere absence from work on 19th September 1968.

(c) 4068 employees have not so far been taken back to duty.

(d) As cases are individually reviewed in accordance with the instructions referred to in the answer to part (a), some more employees are likely to be taken on duty in due course.

#### Russian Delegation for Improving Projects

120. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :  
 SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI :  
 SHRI RANJIT SINGH :  
 SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN LAL :  
 SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE :  
 SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :  
 SHRI BHARAT SINGH CHAUHAN :  
 SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD :  
 SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Russian Delegation headed by Mr. Skachkov visited India recently and discussed with various Ministries with regard to improvement in the working of various Russian-aided Projects in India;

(b) if so, the gist of such discussions and the broad recommendations made by the Russian Delegation for improving these projects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that amongst other proposals capital structure of these projects was suggested to be substantially changed and revised; and

(d) the specific proposals discussed with regard to the improvement in the under-

utilisation of capacities of various units including those of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation and Heavy Electrical Project at Hardwar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The discussions covered a wide range of issues relating to these projects. These included *inter alia* the likely order position of these plants and measures for full utilisation of capacity, together with the steps necessary for bringing about rapid increase in production and productivity in these plants apart from certain specific issues concerning particular undertakings including a re-examination of their capital structure. A statement was made in the Lok Sabha on the 19th December, 1968 indicating the nature of discussions with the Soviet Delegation and the conclusions arrived at.

(d) Fairly detailed discussions were held regarding full utilisation of capacity of these plants in the context of the likely order position for metallurgical, mining and heavy electrical equipment during the next few years. A final picture in this regard would, however, emerge only after the fourth plan is finalised. Nevertheless, it was considered that considerable diversification of manufacture would be necessary, particularly in the case of the Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation and the Heavy Electrical Project at Harnwar. The details in this regard would be worked out by expert groups.

#### Advisory Committee of National Textile Corporation

121. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :  
 SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :  
 SHRI P. M. SAYEED  
 SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the broad recommendations recently made by the Advisory Committee of the National Textile Corporation with regard to

the revival of the working of 40 textile mills in various parts of the country which are on the verge of closure;

(b) whether these recommendations have duly been considered; and

(c) if so, which of them have been accepted or implemented ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-14 168*],

(b) and (c). These and other measures to give relief to the cotton textile industry have been under consideration of the Government and action is being taken as and when feasible.

#### Bokaro Steel Plant

122. SHRI R. BARUA :

SHRI N. R. LASKAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India and U.S.S.R. have signed a protocol in regard to the timely supply of essential equipment to complete the first stage of the Bokaro Steel Plant in time;

(b) whether Government have failed on two major issues in obtaining definite commitments from the U.S.S.R.;

(c) if so, the issues on which accord could not reach; and

(d) the reasons for failure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) On the conclusion of the visit of a Soviet delegation headed by Mr. S. A. Skachkov, Chairman State Committee of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers for Foreign

Economic Relations, a protocol was signed between the two Governments on various measures to increase the efficiency of some of the plants set up in this country, with Soviet credit. One of the clauses in the protocol relates to the supply of certain additional equipment to complete the first stage of the Bokaro Steel Plant as early as possible.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Recommendations of Sarkar Committee on Steel Transactions

123. SHRI R. BARUA :

SHRI N. R. LASKAR :

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :

SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :

Dr. SUSHILA NAYAR :

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

(a) whether the recommendations of the Sarkar Committee which enquired into certain steel transactions have been implemented ;

(b) if so, how many persons, who were found responsible, have been punished ;

(c) what was the punishment awarded to them ;

(c) whether comments on the charges against the other officials, which had been referred to the Vigilance Commission, have been received back ; and

(e) if so, the Commission's views about them ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (e). The recommendations of the Sarkar Committee have been accepted vide the Government of India, Ministry of Steel Mines, and Metals, Resolution No. S C (II)-14 (3) 68 dated 10th May, 1968. Departmental action is being taken against officials held responsible for lapses and negligence, in accordance with the relevant service rules and