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SHRI D. N. PATODIA: SHRI P. K. DEO:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND ENGINEERING be pleased to state:

- (a) the various items included in the terms 'semis' and 'finished steel';
- (b) the total capcity for production of each item or semis and fiinshed steel in each of the main steel plants;
- (c) to what extent the capacity was utilised plant-wise and product wise during the years 1965-66 to 1968-69, year-wise;
- (d) whether orders are sufficient to ensure full utilisation of capacity in 1969-70 for each item for each plant; and
- (e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, whether it is not more economical to utilise such idle capacity for producing semis such as billets on the rail mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The term 'semis' includes billets, blooms slabs, tin bars, hoe bars, sleeper bars, sheet bars and skelp bars. The term 'finished steel' includes bars, rods, structurals skelp, sheets, strips, plates etc.

- (b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House showing capacities before expansion and after expansion and also production during the years 1964-65 to 1968-69 [Placed in libarary See No. LT.494/69]
- (d) By and large, the order position is satisfactory, except for the Wire Rod Mill at Bhilai.
 - (e) Does not arise.

Production in Bhilai Steel Plant

4299. SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM : SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM: SHRI HUKUM CHAND KACH-WAI :

SHRI J. H. PATEL:

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: SHRIMATI TARA SAPRE: SHRI C. M. KEDARIA: SHRI D. R. PARMAR: SHRI K. K. NAYAR: SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: SHRI D. N. PATODIA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the experts of an interview granted by the General Manager of the Bhilai Steel plant to the newspapers, part of which has been published in the Indian Express, Bombay dated the 22nd January, 1969;
- (b) the details of the "mild dose" of criticism by a delegation of Russian experts;
- (c) the specific steps taken to increase the rate of production of Bhilai Steel Plant, which was about 1.8 million tonnes per annum on January 9, to exceed the rated capacity of 2.5 million from January 15, the same year;
- (d) the rate at which Bhilai Steel Plant is working at present and is expected to work in the months to come; and
- (e) whether this would enable the plant to produce more steel billets for the rerollers than was indicated earlier and if so, the quantum to be expected in the next few months?

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

- (b) It was not a case of criticism so much as a joint review of the performance of the Bhilai Steel Plant by the Government of India and the Soviet Delegations led by Mr. Skachkov when certain agreed conclusions of the measures to be taken were drawn up. The major conclusions related to:
 - (i) Repairs to blast furnaces etc.

- (ii) Reduction in the number of sources of supply of coking coal and improvement in quality; and
- (iii) Introduction of revised incentive bonus scheme.
- (c) Several units of the steel plant for the 2.5 million Tonne stage were available by the end of 1968 and to prove the capacities of the various units to produce 2.5 million Tonne, a "High Production Week" was launched from 9th to 15th January, 1969. In the particular week, a special programme of action was drawn up to ensure
 - (a) there was no break down of equipments;
 - (b) the 'heat' delays were cut down;
 - (c) Idle time in Soaking Pits, Rolling Mills, Steel Melting Shop etc. was cut down to the absolute minimum;
 - (d) Internal transport bottlenecks were eliminated; and
 - (e) better co-ordination of various units of the steel Plant.
- (d) At present the Bhilai Steel Plant is operating at a rate of about 1.8 million tonnes of steel ingots. The production plan for the next year 1969-70 has been fixed at approximately 2.2 million tonnes of steel ingots.
- (c) The production of saleable billets during the next year 1969-70 has been pla nned at 4,15,000 tonnes against the rated capacity of saleable billets being 3,15,000 tonnes and the actual production during 1968-69 upto February 1969 being 4,05,000 Tonnes.

दक्षिण-पूर्व रेलवे के ग्रवड़ा डिवीजन को समाप्त किया जाना

4300. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या रैलवें मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार दक्षिण-

- पूर्व रेलवे के अदड़ा डिवीजन को समाप्त करने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और
- (ग) अदड़ा डिवीजन को समाप्त किये जाने के बाद उसे अन्य किस डिवीजन के साथ मिलाया जायेगा ?

रेलवे मन्त्री (डा॰ राम सुभग सिंह) (क): इस तरह का कोई प्रस्ताय विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग): सवाल नहीं उठता।

म्राखिल भारतीय स्टेशन मास्टर संघ का प्रतिनिधि मण्डल

4301. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या रेलवे मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रस्थिल भारतीय स्टंशन मास्टर सघ की ओर से एक प्रतिनिधि मण्डल 2 दिसम्बर, 1968 को तत्कालीन रेलवे मन्त्री से मिला था;
- (ख) यदि हाँ, तो प्रतिनिधि मण्डल के सदस्यों के नाम क्या हैं;
- (ग) क्या प्रतिनिधि मण्डल ने उन्हे एक मांग पत्र प्रस्तुत किया था;
- (घ) यदि हां, तो मांगों का ब्यौरा क्या है;
- (ड) क्या सरकार ने उन पर विचार किया है;और
- (च) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिकिया है?

रेलवे मन्त्री (डा०राम सुभगसिंह) (क) से (च) : अखिल भारतीय स्टेशन