

Nation" dated the 6th November, 1969 alleging that the Superintendent of Police, Dhanbad works according to caste consideration; and

(b) whether his Ministry would probe into the charges made in the aforesaid statement about the alleged connivance of the Dhanbad Police with the INTUC in the coalfield with particular reference to Madhuban and Ghannodih Colliery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY): (a) The Press report has been brought to the notice of Government.

(b) Facts are being ascertained from the State Government.

Ban on Entry of Hippi Girls.

4749. SHRI R. K. BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the American Press reports wherein it is mentioned from time to time that the Hippi girls are going to India for immoral purposes;

(b) if so, the steps which Government are taking to ban their entry into the country; and

(c) the number of such girls in the country at present and the procedure for giving them permission to enter the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No such report has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No separate statistics are maintained of the arrival etc. in India of such persons. They mostly come to India on tourist visas obtained from Indian Missions abroad.

Export of Steel to West Asian Ports

4750. SHRI ISHAQ SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of steel to West Asian ports is being affected adversely by the lack of space allotted by the Shipping Corporation to the exports of steel; and

(b) if so, the measures which Government propose to take to overcome this crisis in export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. is not the only Shipping company engaged in the transportation of various cargos including steel from India to West Asian Ports. There are also other shipping companies operating on this route.

No serious difficulty is experienced by steel shippers in obtaining shipping space from Bombay. In fact, due to shortage of billets, ships are not getting adequate loads.

As regards shipments of steel from Calcutta to West Asian Ports, the Shipping Corporation of India has been berthing one vessel of 4,000 tons every month with an average steel lifting of 2,000 tons per sailing, the balance of space being utilised for other general cargo. In order to assist the steel exports, the Corporation has also diverted one vessel of 8000 tons and is offering sailings for the carriage of 2000 tons of steel in one month and 5500/6000 tons in the alternate month from Calcutta.

Various Indian Lines are about to organise active Conferences—one from Calcutta and the East Coast and the other from Bombay and the West Coast. It is hoped that with these Conferences actively operating, problems of carriage of steel will be resolved speedily and satisfactorily.