

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI NANDA): (a) Yes

(b) No.

(c) Government Railway Police at New Delhi registered the case under Section 379, I P.C. and have recently closed the case as untraced. No clue could be found either of the property or of the culprits inspite of vigorous investigation.

#### Reduction in Cement Prices

248. SHRI K.M. MADHUKAR:  
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:  
SHRI JAGESHWAR YADAV:  
SHRI ESWARA REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government have directed the cement industry to evolve a formula to reduce cement prices to benefit the consumer; and

(b) if so, what is the industry's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE  
(SHRI M.R. KRISHNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Shortage of Cement

249. SHRI K.M. MADHUKAR:  
SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA:  
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:  
SHRI BENI SHANKER  
SHARMA:  
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO:  
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR  
SINGH:  
SHRI M.L. SONDHI:  
SHRI ESWARA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the supply position of cement is still not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to step up production ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE  
(SHRI M.R. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Sir; in northern and eastern parts of the country.

(b) The reasons are inadequate production within the area, shortage in the supply of wagons, labour as well as mechanical troubles.

(c) Some new units are expected to come into production while a few existing units are also expected to expand production by increasing capacity during 1970 and 1971.

#### Allegations made by Vice-President of Hindustan Steel Employees' Union Re. Durgapur Steel Plant

250. SHRI MAHENDRA MAJHI :  
SHRI H. AJMAL KHAN:  
SHRI D. AMAT:  
SHRI NANIA GOWDER:  
SHRI MEETHA LAL MEENA:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain disclosures made by the Vice-President of the Hindustan Steel Employee's Union, Shri Ajit Mukherji, about certain scandles as regards the functioning of the Durgapur Steel Plant,