

13.28 hrs.

**RE. SLOW PROGRESS OF WORK
IN SALEM STEEL PLANT**

*SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN (Salem):
Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to submit an urgent matter of public importance in regard to Salem Steel Plant, which is in my constituency, Salem.

Sir, due to uncertainty in allotment of funds for the year 1974-75 from S.A.I.L. and from the Central Government and also due to allotment of only Rs. 3 crores in the year 1973-74, in general the progress of work in Salem Steel Plant has slowed down considerably. It is regrettable that the Central Government have not yet approved the procurement of Rs. 40 crores worth of plant and machinery required for the Steel Plant. This will delay further the completion of the first phase of the projects by about a year. The issue of tender enquiries for major equipment is not yet being issued. The finalisation of know-how supplier from abroad is pending for a long time. On account of this, the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd., will receive a set-back in its programme of work. The following will be the consequence of such inordinate delays: About 3000 employees will be out of work; 150 people of the permanent labour force will become surplus. Heavy construction equipment worth Rs 1 crore will become idle. This will paralyse the technical personnel already engaged in different specialised field work. Meticulous advance planning is required for the purchase of allotted steel and such other raw material. If the purchase of these items is postponed, it is likely that they may cost much more than what it is now. I have to say that already Rs. 7 crores have been invested in the Steel Plant at Salem. The tempo of construction built up by 31st March 1974 could not be continued due to the

uncertainty in the allocation of funds in the current financial year. I request that the hon. Minister of Steel should take immediate steps in this matter and make a statement on the floor of the House at the earliest

15.50 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION RE FLOATATION OF MARKET LOANS AND NOTIFICATION UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. F. 5(10)-W&M/74 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1974, regarding floatation of market loans by the Central Government in December, 1974 [Placed in Library See No. LT-8777/74]
- (2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R 1304 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th December, 1974 issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944, together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8778/74].

* **BOMBAY TENANCY AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS (GUJARAT 2ND AMDT) RULES, 1974**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Gujarat Second

*The Original Speech was delivered

in Tamil.