

(a) whether the Income Tax authorities have conducted raids in Bombay in the recent past;

(b) whether the said raids covered film personalities also;

(c) if so, the results of the said raids on film personalities together with their particulars;

(d) whether they were also arrested and are being prosecuted;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f). Does not arise.

Supply of Sub-standard Firebricks to Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited

*156. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the firebricks supplied to Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited are sub-standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken against those who are supplying the firebricks;

(d) if so, the nature of action taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Stagnation in output of saleable Steel

*157. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a stagnation in the output of saleable steel in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to raise the output of saleable steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). The production of saleable steel in the country during the last five years and production plan for 1985-86 is tabulated below:

Year	Main Producers	('000 tonnes)	
		Mini Steel Plants	Total
1980-81	6304	1954	8258
1981-82	7257	2032	9289
1982-83	7293	2040	9333
1983-84	6397	1976	8273
1984-85 (est.)	6980	1795	8775
1985-86 (Plan)	7620	1900	9520

Production depends on various factors like the health of the plants, adequate availability of the right quality of inputs and the market needs. Efforts are made to attain high capacity utilisation by proper maintenance and inputs of the desired quality.

As a long term measure output of steel in the country will also be increased by technological upgradation of existing plants and setting up of new steel plants.

For improving the capacity utilisation of mini steel plants, facilities like expansion of existing units, free diversification, forward integration, installation of contiguous casting machines etc. have been extended.

India's Position in World Diamond Market

*158. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the value of diamonds exported during the year ended on 31 December, 1984 was Rs. 1182 crores which indicated only a marginal increase over the previous year's export of Rs. 1162 crores;

(b) if so, whether the declining value of the export indicates that India is losing its grip on the world diamond market; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI

VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a)
 Yes, Sir, according to the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, exports of cut and polished diamonds from India during the period January—December, 1984 aggregated to Rs. 1,182 crores, against Rs. 1164 crores during January—December, 1983.

(b) and (c). Exports of processed diamonds from India during January-December, 1984 showed no decline in comparison with those during January-December, 1983.

Pithead Coal Stocks

*159. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :**
 Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Minister of Railways has promised to initiate substantial and immediate steps to provide adequate number of wagons to clear pithead coal stocks ;

(b) whether the said promise has been fulfilled by the Railways ;

(c) if so, the number of wagons provided in February, 1985; and

(d) the latest position of coal stocks at the pithead ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL) SHRI VASANT SATHE):
 (a) to (c). In the meeting between the Minister of Steel, Mines & Coal and the Minister of Railways held on 6th February, 1985, it was decided that the target for coal loading should be kept at 13,200 wagons per day on the average, till May'85, out of which 11,600 wagons per day were to be supplied to Coal India Ltd. and 1200 to Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. The actual loading during February 1985 per day on the average was 10,755 by Coal India Ltd. and 924 by Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.

(d) The coal stocks as on 1.3.85 were as follows :

	(In million tonnes)
Coal India Ltd.	— 25.40
Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.	— 0.72
Others	— 0.17
Total	— 26.20

New Textile Policy

*160. **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: SHRI B.V. DESAI :** Will the minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to formulate a new textile policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy and by when it is likely to be announced ;

(c) whether the new textile policy will cover the handloom industry also; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to develop handloom industry in the country, particularly in the backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):
 (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The new Textile Policy is under formulation and will be announced as soon as possible.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A number of measures have been initiated for the development of the handloom industry. The main schemes that have been initiated are as follows:—

- (i) Grant of special rebate on sale of handloom cloth.
- (ii) Share capital assistance for primary and apex handloom cooperative societies and the State handloom development corporations;
- (iii) Assistance for creation of pre-loom and post-loom processing facilities;
- (iv) Loan and grant assistance to handloom weavers in the cooperative sector for improvement and modernisation of looms;
- (v) Managerial subsidy to handloom cooperative.
- (vi) Handloom janata cloth schemes for providing sustained employment to handloom weavers.
- (vii) Intensive Development Projects/Exports Production projects for the benefit of weavers outside the cooperative fold;