

MR. SPEAKER: the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Distribution of Iron and Steel

*249. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law to govern the distribution of iron and steel in and outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to introduce a bill to regulate distribution of iron and steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR):

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Provisions exist to regulate the distribution, possession and use of iron and steel inside the country under the Iron and Steel (Control) Order, 1956 notified under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. These provisions enable the Government to give necessary directives to the producers of iron and steel with a view to securing proper distribution; proper utilisation of iron and steel by the consumer is also enforceable under these provisions. Export of iron and steel from the country is governed by the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, and Exports (Control) Order, 1977 notified thereunder.

(c) Does not arise.

Report of Task Force on Salem Steel Plant

*252. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the updated DPR (Second Stage) for Salem Steel Plant prepared by the Centre for Engineering and Technology (CET) has not been considered viable;

(b) whether Government have set up a task force to examine alternative ways through which this steel plant can grow;

(c) if so, when the report of the task force is expected; and

(d) in case the report has already been received, what steps Government propose to take to put through the expansion plan of Salem Steel Plant Expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Steel Authority of India Limited has considered the report and not found it viable.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Financial Assistance to Vidyasagar University, Midnapore

*253. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, has received any financial assistance from the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the amount released to it so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons for withholding the financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (A) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.