Production, Management and Distribution of Steel

*809. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any specific steps during the last one year to improve the production, management and distribution of steel in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some of these are—

- (i) Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government and SAIL to improve SAIL's performance through greater delegation and operational freedom together with clear accountability.
- (ii) Encouraging a more productive work culture in public steel plants.
- (iii) Stepping up Steel production particularly of items in short supply.
- (iv) Permitting modernisation and expansion of mini-steel plants through a new licensing policy.
- (v) Improving customer service through scheme a time bound supply introduced by SAIL.
- (vi) Taking action for the modernisation of Durgapur, Rourkela and Burnpur Steel Plants to overcome their technical obsolescence and increase their production to their rated capacity.

Bonded Labour

*810. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the problem of bonded labour has not yet been solved fully;
- (b) whether any voluntary organisations are also working for the release of the bonded labour in the country; and

(c) if so, their names and the details of assistance being given by Government to these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. As per the reports received from the State Governments 2,24,562 bonded labourers been identified upto 29,2,1988 out of which 1,98,508 have been rehabilitated leaving a balance of 26,054 bonded labourers to be rehabilitated.

Some Voluntary agencies are reported to be active in this field. A schemes for the involvement of Voluntary Agencies in the task of identification. release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers has been launched on 30.10.1987. The Scheme provides for selection of voluntary agencies either by the Council for selection of voluntary agencies either by Advancement of Peoples Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) or by the State Governments concerned. A copy of the Scheme is given below in the statement.

Statement

Plan Scheme for Involvement of voluntary Agencies for Identification and Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers

Introduction

At present, the identification rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers are secured through State Governments. However, the 20 Point Programme inter-alia envisages involvemer of Voluntary Agencies in the work relating to identification, and rehabilitation of bonded labourers. Accordingly in consultation with the concerned interests, a Plan Scheme for involvement of Voluntary Agencies for identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourers has been formulated. The Scheme is given below:

The Scheme

Identification/selection of Volnntary Agencies

Identification/selection of voluntary agencies would be done either by the State Government or by COUNCIL ADVANCEMENT OF PEOPLE'S ACTION AND RURAL TECHNOLOGY (CAPART).

While doing so they may keep in mind the following factors which are only in nature of guidelines:

- (i) The agency should be legal entity.
- (ii) It should be based in a rural area and be working for a minimum of three years.
- (iii) It should have broad based objectives serving the social and economic needs of the community as a whole and mainly the weaker Sections. It must not work for profit but on 'No Profit and No loss' basis.
- (iv) Its activities should be open to all citizens of India irrespective of religion, caste, creed, sex or race.
- (v) It should have the necessary flexibility professional competence and organisational skills to implement the programme.
- (vi) Its office-nearer should not be elected office bearers of any political party.
- (vii) It declares that it will adopt constitutional and non-violent rural means for development purposes.
- (viii) It is committed to secular and democratic concepts and methods of functioning. List of agencies idenfied by CAPART (State-wise/ Area-wise) wili be sent both to the Ministry of Labour and to the State Governments concerned.

2. Identification of Bonded Labourers by the Identified/Selected Voluntary Agencies

- (a) Identified/selected voluntary agencies would be responsible for identification as well as rehabilitation of bonded labourers. However, an agency can take up only identification or rehabilitation of bonded labourers, if it so desires.
- (b) The voluntary agencies would submit lists of identified bonded labourers to competent authorities and pursue the matter till a decision of the authority as to whether persons mentioned by them are bonded labourers or not, is given and release certificates are issued.

(c) Agencies may also consider lodging a report with the Police in terms of provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 like any other indivi dual.

Administrative Expenditure of Voluntary Agencies for work relating to bonded labourers

- (a) Voluntary agencies would be paid subsidy of Rs. 5,000 per managerial annum. In addition, they will be paid Rs. 100 for each release order, in excss of 20, secured in a year subject to the condition that the total amount of subsidy and the amount for release orders will not exceed Rs. 10,000 in a year. This money is given to the Voluntary Agencies to meet its administrative expenses in various activities, relating to bonded labourers.
- (b) The expenditure would be shared equally by the State Government and the Central Government.
- (c) Payment will be made to voluntary agency by the State Government to the extent of its share and Central Grant would be released separately to the State Governments who whould pass it on to the voluntary agency or CAPART.

OR

The Central share would be passed on to the CAPART who would in turn pass it on to the voluntary agency concerned. The State share will be obtained either by voluntary agency or by CAPART from the State Government.

4. Rekabilitation of Bonded Labourers by Voluntary Agencies

- (a) The voluntary agencies identified/ selected by the State Government and/or by CAPART. would submit projects for rehabilitation of bonded labourers to the District/Divisional/State Level Screening Committee.
 - (b) (i) The Central and the State Government share of assistance (upto a maximum of Rs. 6,250 per bonded labourer) would be placed at the disposal of voluntary agency by the State Government.

- (ii) The Central Share may be paid to the voluntary agencies by the Government through Central GAPART and the CAPART or the voluntary agency may claim State share from the Government. In case they are not able to get this share, the shortfall will be met by the CAPART or the voluntary However agency concerned. in no case the assistance aviliable for rehabilitation bonded labourer should be less than Rs. 6,250 (exclusive of the amount/facilities in kind available under other Government Schemes).
- (c) The rehabilitation scheme would be integrared effectively with the other antipoverty programmes and an integrated package approach would by adopted. The schemes/projects worked out by voluntary agencies would also conform to the guidelines/orders issued by Government from time to time.

5. Monitoring of the Identification and the rehabilitation programme

A Review Committee at the State Level headed by the Chief Secretary of some other Senior Officer would be constituted to review the progress in the identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourore by the voluntary agencies. least two representatives of voluntary agencies would also be nominated on this Committee. Voluntary Agencies will be required to carry out the directions/instructions/suggestions made by the Review Committee.

- 5.2. Voluntary Agencies would be reporting the progress in the matter of identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourers to the District Authorities periodically; a copy of the progress report will also be sent to Member Secretary to the Review Committee mentioned above.
- 5 3. The Review Committee would meet atleast once in a year.
- 6. Identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourers through voiuntary agencies would be an additionality. State Governments would continue the work of identification and rehabilitation as at present.

Exploitation of Minerals

*811. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large quantity of different kinds of mineral deposite may be found in the country:
- (b) whether any policy has been formulated for the optimal exploitation and utilisation of minerals in the country including mining of minerals from the sea-bed; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this respect so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government's policy relating to exploitation and utilisation of minerals has evolved over the years and is reflected essentially in the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 and the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act 1957. To present the overall policy parameters relating to regulation of mines and mineral development, a draft national mineral policy statement has been prepared in regard to all minerals except fuel and atomic minerals. The draft policy aims at concerted action for survey exploration and evaluation of the mineral potential in our land and sea areas, particularly those in which the country is deficient or has just adequate reserves. Conservation, beneficiation, utilisation of associated minerals, recycling of minerals, research and development, backward and forward linkages. manpower development, development of infrastructural facilities and protection of environment will receive due consideration in the course of development of mineral resources of the country and their optimal exploitation and utilisation.

Out-board and In-board Motors

- *812. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the import value (CIF value) of ail types of outboard and inboard motors from