

**Problems of mini steel plants**

\*921. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that nearly 160 mini steel plants in the country have been in deep trouble for the last two years, which has been further accentuated with certain proposals contained in this year's Budget;

(b) whether the study conducted recently by Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited, a public sector organisation, has also proved that the mini-steel industry is facing a difficult situation and if so, the details of these problems; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to help the mini steel units to tide over their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Steel Furnace Association of India has been representing to the Government that duty on the import of input materials such as Carbon Steel Melting Scrap, Sponge Iron, Hot Briquetted Iron should be reduced/abolished as the industry was not able to generate enough resources for modernisation and upgradation of technology. They have recently made a plea to the Government that their operations have become economically unviable because of increased costs of input materials. The rationalisation of Auxiliary Duty with effect from 1.3.1986 has led to an increase in the level of import duties on the input material for the mini steel plants.

(b) The report of the Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (MECON) indicated that the industry was facing problems such as inadequate availability and high prices of power and melting scrap.

(c) The Government has increased the import of scrap in 1985-86 to enable better capacity utilisation for the industry. The State Governments have also been requested to supply adequate power to the mini steel plants. MECON have been asked to update

their report to enable a view to be taken by Government on any further measures that may be necessary.

**Evaluation of ICAR**

\*922. SHRI D.N. REDDY:  
DR. T. KALPANA DEVI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether working of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is evaluated after an interval of five years; and

(b) if not, whether such evaluation will be taken up as in the case of other ICAR units?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has a system of Quinquennial Review Teams for periodically evaluating the ICAR Institutes and Project Directorates and submitting their reports for the consideration of the Governing Body. The working of the All India Coordinated Research Projects is also reviewed annually or biennially in the workshops of research workers. The annual and final reports of the *ad-hoc* research schemes are evaluated by the concerned scientific panels represented by experts in each discipline. The rules and byelaws of the ICAR Society, also provide for a general body which review the progress and performance of the constituent units and gives policy directions and for a Governing Body which implements the policy directions and oversees the administrative, financial and technical matters of the Society.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Damage to crops due to drought and rain**

\*923. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH  
TUR:  
SHRI BALWANT SINGH  
RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently crops in various areas have been damaged either due to excessive rains at some places or due to failure of rains at other places;

(b) if so, the States that have asked for assistance from the Centre in this regard;

(c) the demands made by each State Government; and

(d) the action taken by Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE  
(S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A Statement is given below.

#### Statement

*Statement showing the details of Central Assistance sought and ceiling of expenditure approved to various State for drought, flood, heavy-rains, cyclone etc.—1985-86.*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	Drought			Floods/Cyclone etc.		
		Assistance Sought	Cellings approved		Assistance Sought	Ceiling approved	
			For 1985-86	For 1986-87		For 1985-86	For 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	953.00	63.09	...	27.02	1.55	5.59
2.	Assam	...	...	...	86.88	22.16	...
3.	Bihar	...	...	...	...	...	...
4.	Haryana	64.57	9.21	...	39.22	7.94	...
5.	Himachal Pradesh	102.21	16.46	...	82.02	12.40	2.28
6.	Gujarat	491.64	41.83	75.65	...	...	...
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	30.50	4.12	...	15.95	8.87	...
8.	Karnataka	595.43	62.46	50.00	...	...	...
9.	Kerala	57.81	0.30	...	743.36	134.79	...
10.	Madhya Pradesh	277.42	51.11	...	...	...	...
11.	Maharashtra	664.37	65.56	21.68	35.34	13.91	...
12.	Manipur	...	...	...	4.44	1.60	...
13.	Nagaland	...	...	...	4.32	0.24	...
14.	Meghalaya	...	...	...	6.51	2.61	0.50
15.	Tripura	...	...	...	7.61	3.73	...
16.	Sikkim	...	...	...	28.03	4.07	...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Orissa	...	...	...	191.00	32.62	...
18.	Punjab	20.03	8.14	...	474.11	60.88	...
19.	Rajasthan	659.44	62.06	51.59	...	...	...
20.	Tamil Nadu	...	...	...	186.59	66.81	...
21.	Uttar Pradesh	543.53	51.78	...	1732.50	165.32	...
22.	West Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	...	...	...	8.42	3.79	...
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	...	...	...	0.015	0.007	...
25.	Mizoram	0.72	0.24	...	4.95	0.27	0.14
26.	Pondicherry	2.67	1.19	...	14.18	5.07	...
Total :		4463.34	437.55	198.92	3692.53	548.63	8.51

[English]

**Educated unemployed youths**

\*924. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:  
PROF. K.K. TEWARY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the data provided by Employment Exchanges about the extent of educated unemployed in the country is realistic;

(b) if so, the reasons for criticism in this regard; and

(c) the improvement being effected by Employment Exchanges in their methods of collecting data about unemployed youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The job-seekers registered with the Employment Exchanges do not indicate exactly the number of unemployed persons in the country. All persons registered with the Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

Registration with Employment Exchanges is only voluntary, and all unemployed persons do not register themselves with the Employment Exchanges.

(c) The main function of the Employment Exchanges is to provide employment assistance and guidance to the job-seekers registered with them. Computerisation of Employment Exchanges has been undertaken with a view to provide a more efficient service.

**Legislation to compel Employers to provide houses to their workers**

\*925. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring forward legislation in Parliament making it obligatory on the part of the industrial units to provide housing to their workers and undertake development of slum and jhuggi areas where industrial workers put up their huts; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefore ?