position because those who have obtained raw-material from the stockyards will not come within that. Allocation for Madhya Pradesh for the year 1979-80 was 5.75 lakh tonnes.

श्रीसत्यनारायण कटियाः एलौकेशन इतनाथापर सण्लाई कितनाकिया गया यह भी मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Receipt will be 4.5 lakh tonnes. When we make the allocation the formula is past off-take plus capacity divided by two. Full entitlement is not met if total production does not take place.

श्री सस्य नारायण जटिया : प्रध्यक्ष महोदय, जितना उन्होंने ईयरमार्क किया था उसके अनुपात में कुछ दिया नहीं । बड़े बड़े उद्योगों को तो इस्पात और लोहे की आपूर्ति करने में हमारी सरकार सक्षम है लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि छोटे उद्योग जितना एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं उस आधार पर भी क्या उस एक्सपोर्ट की आपूर्ति करने लायक रा-मैटीरियल उन को सरकार देगी या क्या कोई ऐसी मणीनरी बनाएगी कि जिस के द्वारा जितना वह एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं उस की आपूर्ति की जा सके ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE The hon, Member is well aware that already we have taken car_e of the exporting units and their full requirements are met. Last year, their requirement was 3.5 lakh tonnes and 100 per cent availability was made to them.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, it is being stated in Government pronouncements that the basis of allocation of steel is past off-take and past production. While this may be quite rational it is likely that some of the units which have got an allocation on this basis suffer from production constraints like power shortage etc. and consequently they have to sell their allocation in the black-market.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of this anomaly in the allocation system and whether the concept of ability to consume will be considered by him as one of the criteria for allocation.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, there may be economic rationality in the suggestion of the hon. Member but the hon. Member would appreciate the difficulties in implementation. It is true that if we can give to those units which can utilise it fully it will help us but at the same there may arise questions of discrimination and also from the administrative point of view it would be really difficult to implement it. Therefore, the answer lies in having more availability. The Member would appreciate hon. that we are trying to increase Production. Some important has taken place and, I hope, this vear may not face the crisis faced last year.

Sir, I would like to clarify one more point. The figure which I gave earlier was the all-India figure. In respect of Madhya Pradesh the figure of allocation would be 21,300 tonnes and actual despaches 11,365 tonnes.

श्री प्रताप भानु शर्मा : क्या मती जी यह वताएंगे कि जो जानकारी उन्होंने अभी दी कि टॉटल एलोकेशन मध्य प्रदेश को 21 300 टन का प्राप्त हुग्रा श्रोर इस के पहले जानकारी दी कि इसमें से मध्य प्रदेश श्रोद्योगिक निगम को 550 मीट्रिक टन दिया तो बाकी ग्रलाटमेट किस किस हैड में उन्होंने हमारे राज्य को दिया है, यह जान-कारी मैं चाहता हूं।

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: This figure is up to January. I have not got the present three month's figure. But I have already given you the figure of total allocation for 12 months. That I have already given.

कम व्यय थाली इस्पात छड़ों का न बनाया जाना

*669 श्री विलोप सिंह भूरियाः क्या इस्पाल झौर खान मंत्री यह बताने की इत्पा करेंगे कि: (क) क्या प्रमुख इस्पात उत्पादक कम व्यास वाली इस्पात छड़ों का उत्पादन नहीं कर रहे हैं ग्रौर विद्युत् मण्डलों को ऊंची कीमतों पर उनको सप्लाई के लिए मुख्यतः ''री--रोलरों'' पर निर्भर रहना पड़ रहा है;

(ख) क्या हिन्दुस्तान स्टील अथारिटी का विचार बिल्लेट्स का अायात करने तथा उन्हें विद्युत् मण्डलों को ''री-रोलिंग'' हेतु सण्ताई करने का है ताकि वे उचित कीमत पर छड़ें प्राप्त कर सकें?

(ग) क्या हिन्दुस्तान स्टील ग्रथारिटी लिमिटेड तथा अन्य प्रमुख इस्पात उत्पादकों ढारा सप्लाई किये गये "बिल्लेट्स" से "री–रोलरों" ढारा बनाए गये इस्पात उत्पादों की कीमतों पर ।नेयंत्रण लागू करने श्रोर उक्त उत्पादों की कुछ मात्रा को विद्युत् बोर्डो जैसे प्राथमिक प्रयोक्ताग्रों के लिए आरक्षित करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(घ) क्या सरकारी क्षेत्र के इस्पात संयंत्रों, विद्युत् संयंत्रों को सप्लाई करने हेतु रेलों के विशेष टेपर्ड सैक्शनों तथा ग्रार० एस० ज्याएंट्स का निर्माण करने की स्थिति में है ताकि इस्पात का किफायती उपयोग सुनिश्चित हो सके ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Non-Production of Steel, Rounds of Small Diameter

(a) It i_s true that the production of steel rounds of small diameters from the integrated steel plants forms a very small proportion of the total production of such rounds, the balance coming mainly from re-rollers.

(b) Billets are already allowed for import in the Import Policy for 1980-81 and it was open to the actual users, including State Electricity Boards to avail themselves of this provision. (c) There is at present no control over the prices of such steel products produced by the integrated steel plants as well as the re-rollers. There is also no control over the price of the billets supplied by Steel Authority of India Limited. Government do not consider it necessary to reserve ("received" appears to be a typographical error) a part of the production, as suggested.

(d) SAIL plants are not designed to produce special tapered sections. So far as rolled steel joints ("joints" appears to be a typographical error) are concerned, these are distributed among the various consuming sectors including Electricity Boards; who form one of the priority sectors for the supply of steel.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: These are demands coming mostly from re-rollers and the main integrated steel producers. As I have mentioned to you earlier, we are not in a position to provide the feed materials to these re-rolling mills. It is not possible to improve the supply position, because, that too depends upon the total availability of materials.

श्री दिलीप सिंह भूरियाः जब सका उत्पादन बढ़ाने की इतनी ग्रावम्यकता है यह बाजार में ब्लैक में मिलती है तो इसका उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं जब एलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्डों को झापने झायात करनेको अनुमति दो है तो अबतक भारत में कुल कितने एलेक्ट्रिसिटों बोडों ने इसका लाभ उठाया है स्रौर कितनो तादाद में माल लिया है,?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Regarding the quantum of import, this figure is not available with me just now. As I said, it is not a question of adding to the capacity. It is a question of utilisation of the capacity. The hon. Member is aware of the position. We have the capacity to produce 7 million tonnes of saleable steel. But, during the last year, we could produce only 4.74 million tonnes. That was because of the non-availability of power and also certain other essential inputs which were needed. When the power position started improving, from monthly average 319,000 tonnes of production upto September, the production later had gone up to 450 to 500 thousand tonnes. It all depends, to what extent we can utilise the capacity which has already been created.

Loss on Account of currency dealings in Hong Kong Branch of India Overseas Bank

*671 SHRI DHARAM DASS SHASTRI:† SHRI R. P. YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any big loss on account of currency dealings in Hong Kong Branch of India Overseas Bank resulting in a big loss to our country;

(b) if so, the quantum of loss and the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action taken against the culprits to prevent future speculation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c): Indian Oversea_S Bank has reported of it having suffered certain losses on some foreign exchange operations undertaken at its Hong Kog Branch during the year 1980. The quantum of losses suffered, the responsibility of the officials involved and the adequacy of the controlling system are being investigted by the bank and the Reserve Bank of India.

र्श्वा धर्मराज शास्त्री : अव्यक्ष महा-दय मंत्री महोदय ने गोल-मोल तरीके से इस घोटाले का उत्तर दिया है जो मेरी समझ में नहीं ग्राया । इतने सूलजे हुए ग्रीर इतने सनझदार मंत्री होते हए उन्होंने ऐसा उत्तर दिया है। मैंने अभने प्रक्त के भाग (ख) में पूछाथा कि किननी हानि हुई है उसको निष्ठित राशि ब**ाई** जाए । मंत्री जे की जालगरी में है कि 31 दिलम्बर, 1980 को बलेन्स-शीट तैथार हो गई *थे।* ग्रौर जब बैलेन्सगीट तैनार हो कर मार्केट में ग्रा आती है तब राशि में क्या कठिनाई है ? क्या मंत्री महोदय को इस बात की जानकारी है कि मार्च 1981 में ''एकोनामिक टाइम्स'' में एक खबर छर्प। थी कि दो करोड रुपये का घोटाला है ? ग्रंगर मंत्री जीको पतानहीं चला तो समाचार-पत को कैंसे पता चल गया ? फिर जब पत्न में कोई खबर छपती है तो ग्रापने उसकी जांच भी कराई होगी और अगर जांच नहीं कराई है तो आप इतना सांधे क्यों रहते हैं ? आप जागते रहिए। ग्रगर देश के लिए ग्रापको कुछ करना है।

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): Sir, there is a difference between a public statement and a statement by a Minister. We have got to be very correct in the information which we give and unless we are able to give correct information, we cannot hazard gueses. That is why you will find a certain hesitancy in our giving the answers because we are not yet fully sure of the facts and figures. Since the hon. Member has asked, I will now give it to the House. There are