

जा चुके हैं जिनके अन्तर्गत 400 जिले आते हैं ।

Wages to surplus workers of H.S.C.L.

*55. SHRI SHANTUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of workers have become surplus in Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited (HSCL) but wages are being paid to them even without any work;

(b) the number of surplus workers and the total amount paid to them as salary in 1981-82 and this year so far;

(c) the reasons for their being rendered surplus and the steps taken to overcome the situation of payment of salary to them without any work; and

(d) the details of the profit earned or loss incurred by this undertaking for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b). There are 1184 workers of HSCL Bhilai and Vizag who are being paid wages without doing any work.

There are in the aggregate about 4200 workers including 1184 workers mentioned above who are surplus in the sense that though they are working (except 1184 workers) their services can be dispensed with to achieve optimum productivity. The wages paid to such workers are above Rs. 50 lacs per month.

(c) The reasons for the workers being rendered surplus are:—

(i) Tapering of work at Bokaro and Bhilai;

(ii) The completion of a number of small projects like Singrauli, Korba etc.;

(iii) The inability of the Company to transfer the workers from one work-site in one State to another work-site in a different state due to the local agitations;

(iv) Inadequate work load;

Various steps have been taken from time to time to reduce this burden cast on the company, primarily because it is a public sector undertaking, as follows:—

(i) Persuade the State Governments to allow workers from other States to join work on transfer;

(ii) Get the HSCL workers absorbed in steel plants;

(iii) Secure more work in steel and other sectors in States where the workers have been rendered surplus;

(iv) Retrench the surplus workers at Bokaro.

(d) The details of the profit and loss of the Company for the last three years are as follows:—

1979-80	Rs. 704.27 lakhs (loss)
1980-81	Rs. 3397.22 lakhs (loss)
1981-82	Rs. 1237.23 lakhs (loss)

Negotiations with Akalis

*56. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will stop negotiating with the Akalis in Punjab unless and until they promise to eschew acts of violence, terrorism and confrontation and also their talk of Sikhs as a distinct and separate nation; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there was already an Award and agreement in January 1970 with Sikh Akalis regarding Chandigarh and why another agreement is now being negotiated with the Akalis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Government have been negotiating with the representatives of the Shiromani Akali Dal regarding various demands put forth by them. The talks have been held in

an atmosphere of cordiality and no decisions would be taken under threat. Our doors are always open for peaceful negotiations.

(b) The Central Government's decisions on certain disputes arising out of the reorganisation of the composite State of Punjab under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1956 were announced on 29-1-1970. However, for various reasons, the decision to transfer Chandigarh to Punjab as also other connected decisions could not be implemented. As such this question is still under discussion.

Development of certain Areas in U.P.

*57. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Central Government for specially developing certain areas in Uttar Pradesh in the State's Annual Plan 1983-84; and

(b) if so, the salient details thereof stating the Central assistance, if any, proposed to be given for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to give Central assistance amounting to Rs. 85 crores for the development of Hill Areas in the State.

Indigenous production of Uranium

*58. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the indigenous production of uranium and to what extent it meets the requirements; and

(b) what are the long term/short term programmes, if any, taken up by Government to augment the indigenous production of uranium to meet the country's requirement of nuclear power programme and to minimise dependency on imports and what are the achievements so far?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). India

is self sufficient in nuclear fuel except for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station which uses enriched uranium. Our estimated reserves of uranium are considered adequate for the power programme currently envisaged. Facilities for the milling and mining of uranium and for the fabrication of fuel are being augmented in a phased manner to cater to the requirements of the power programmes.

Import of colour T.V. sets as gifts during ASIAD 1982

*59. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of colour T.V. sets which came to India as "gift" during Asiad 1982 and how it affected the electronic industry in the country; and

(b) what is the cost and sale price of colour T.V. sets assembled here by using imported colour T.V. kits?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) The total number of Colour Television (CTV) sets imported under OGL No. 23/82 has been reported to be 62,360. Out of these 60,809 number of CTV have since been cleared and customs duty amounting to Rs. 55.80 crores (approximately) has been realised. The import of CTV receivers under the gift scheme have enabled a large number of people to view the Asian Games in colour and subsequent colour programmes as are being transmitted. The fears of indigenous industry, as reported in various newspapers were correct. Large number of indigenous assemblers are still requesting Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ETTD) to release the balance of colour TV kits which indicates that a sufficient market is available and which also indicates the confidence of the local TV assemblers regarding the marketing of CTV sets.

(b) The cost of production of CTV sets assembled from imported kits is typically around Rs. 5,000/-. The sale price to