

(b) if so, the result of such study; and

(c) when Government are going to start the work?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM). (a) and (b). In connection with the long-term steel development programme it is, proposed to take up detailed techno-economic studies in respect of a few greenfield locations including those in Orissa.

(c) Does not arise now in view of the position stated above in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question

Indian Costs of Steel ore as compared with those from Europe and Japan

*152. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian costs and prices of Steel Ore even after two decades of industrialisation are higher than those of Europe and Japan notwithstanding the fact that we have ample resources of raw materials that go into steel production such as iron ore coking coal and cheap human resources; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (b). It is presumed that the reference is to "Steel" rather than "Steel Ore". By and large, the exworks costs and prices of steel in the country do correspond favourably with prices abroad. If production in the country is stepped up from the present level of about two thirds to about 90 per

cent of the capacity, steel prices and costs in India may be among the lowest in the world.

Suspension of Manufacture of Steel Bright Bars

*153 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY.
SHRI C K JAFFER SHARIEF

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have suspended further licensing and registration for the manufacture of steel bright bars; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T A. PAI): (a) Yes, Sir, for a period of one year.

(b) This is due to acute shortage of raw material and large capacity having already been licensed/registered

Suggestion for Appointment of Industrial Tribunals presided over by Judges Selected by High Courts

*154 SHRI S A MURUGANANTHAM Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri Naval Tata, President of the Employers' Federation of India has suggested the appointment of Industrial Tribunals presided over by judges selected by High Courts; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Government have noted this suggestion which appeared in the press recently