

and 1974-75 is estimated at about 5.6 and 6.1 million tonnes respectively.

(c) Till 31st December, 1975 orders have been booked for the export of 8,46,631 tonnes of steel valued at Rs. 161.44 crores. The export orders cover a number of buying countries including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Iran, Gulf Countries, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Kenya, Indonesia and Korea.

(d) In 1973-74, 36,652 tonnes of steel materials valued at Rs. 4.62 crores were exported. The exports in 1974-75 amounted to 52,135 tonnes valued at Rs. 10.92 crores.

पटना तथा गाजीपुर के बीच जल परिवहन

\*308. श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : क्या नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गंगा नदी में पटना और गाजीपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) के बीच चल रहे जल परिवहन को स्थायी रूप दे दिया गया है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री (डा० जी० एस० दिल्ली) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) यह सेवा 1971 से प्रयोगात्मक एवं संबर्द्धनात्मक आधार पर चलाई जा रही है। अन्तर्देशीय जल परिवहन निदेशालय की कोशिशों के बावजूद इस सेवा के लिये यातायात की मात्रा में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है और इसमें लगातार घाटा हो रहा है। परिचालनों में और विविधता लाई जा रही है।

### Microwave Communication System between Delhi and Calcutta

\*309. SHRI A. K. KISKU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress so far made to provide alternative communication between Delhi and Calcutta through microwave system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): The installation of the Microwave system has been completed in Calcutta-Kharagpur-Asansol section of the Calcutta-Delhi route. Installation is in advanced stage in the Asansol-Patna-Gorakhpur-Lucknow section. This section will be through progressively in about six months' time. Materials for the Delhi-Lucknow section are being received. Civil works are also in progress.

### Telecommunication Industries in West Bengal

314. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received request from State Government of West Bengal to have more telecommunication industries;

(b) if so, the outline thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have offered to provide land and other infrastructural facilities for the setting up of a telecommunication factory in West Bengal.

(c) The question of location of the new units of Indian Telephone Industries to be set up during the Fifth Five Year Plan period is under consideration.