

Plant Management on 15th May, 1971 for joint efforts in improving production in Steel Melting Shop. Similar joint meetings are proposed to be held to improve production in other areas of the Plant.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

**Underproduction in Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plant**

\*398. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether underproduction in Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants is mainly due to breakdown of the plants arising from lack of preventive maintenance during the initial stages ;

(b) if so, the number of such breakdowns in each of the plants during the last two years ended 31st March, 1971 and the time of such occurrences : and

(c) the action Government propose to take to remedy the past lapses ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The production at Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants during 1970-71 was lower than that in 1969-70. This shortfall in production was partly due to disturbed industrial relations throughout the year in Durgapur and during the first half of the year in Rourkela and partly on account of certain technical and operational constraints/deficiencies including loss of production facilities due to breakdowns.

(b) The number of breakdowns exceeding one day during the year 1969-70 was as under :

Plants	Number of breakdowns exceeding one day	
	1969-70	1970-71
Rourkela Steel Plant	26	27
Durgapur Steel Plant	31	7

(c) The Management of Hindustan Steel Limited is quite alive to the importance of preventive maintenance and has taken a number of remedial measures including reorganisation and strengthening of maintenance organisations, timely procurement of spare parts, regular inspection of plant and equipment and advance planning of repairs etc.

**Setting Up of Small Units of Steel Plant in Rajasthan**

\*399. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the acute shortage of steel and the long time involved to set up big plants, Government are considering to set up smaller units in the vicinity of iron ore belts ;

(b) whether in this connection Government have examined the recent findings of large iron ore deposits in Rajasthan suitable for the above purpose ; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) There is at present no proposal to set up small steel units in the Central sector.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Profits of Coal Mining Companies in Private Sector**

\*400. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the profits of the private sector coal mining companies have gone up very high during 1969-70 ; if so, how much ;

(b) whether the salaries and wages which accounted for 51.7 per cent of the value of production in 1969 have come down to 49 per cent in 1970 ; and

(c) whether the expenditure on welfare measures had come down from 5.3 per cent