

• THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-Japan Relations

*357. SHRI GIRIDIHAR GOMANGO. SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after Finance Minister's visit to Japan recently, the relations between the two countries have improved a lot, and

(b) if so, the number of Study Groups from Japan which visited India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) India's relations with Japan have always been friendly and cordial. The Finance Minister's visit provided an opportunity for discussion on matters of mutual interest and helped strengthen the already existing friendly relations.

(b) A 22-member Japanese delegation representing various important industrial and business circles in Japan visited India in November 1972 to explore investment possibilities here. Another important Japanese delegation led by Dr. Nagano is visiting Delhi from 5th December in order to attend the 5th joint meeting of the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committees.

Chairman of Holding Company for Steel

*358. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the "March of the Nation" weekly

dated the 5th August, 1972 regarding the Chairman of the Holding Company for Steel; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) The report in question has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Government do not share the views expressed in the report.

Setting up of Permanent Indo-Swedish Joint Commission

*359 SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI: SHRI MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a permanent Indo-Swedish Joint Commission is being set up;

(b) if so, whether Foreign Minister of Sweden has visited India, and

(c) the main aims and objects of the Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c). During the visit of the Foreign Minister of Sweden to India in November, 1972, Letters were exchanged establishing an Indo-Swedish Joint Commission in the economic, industrial technical and scientific fields. The Letters embody the main aims and objectives and copies thereof are placed on the Table of the House. Placed in Library. See. No. LT-3837/72.]

Production of Heavy Melting Scrap

*360. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of heavy melting scrap;