CENTRAL STATUTORY ORGANISATION FOR PUBLIC SECTOR STEEL PLANTS

\*567. SHRI HEM BARUA:
SHRI D. C. SHARMA:
SHRI R. K. AMIN:
SHRI HIMATSINGKA:
SHRI MAYAVAN:
SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR:
SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that he has suggested to Government to form a central statutory organisation on the model of the British Steel Corporation to look after the public sector steel plants; and
- (b) if so, the details of the proposals and also the circumstances necessitating such a reorganisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY):
(a) and (b). After study of the structure of the British Steel Corporation, during my recent visit to the United Kingdom, and the report of Administrative Reforms Commission and on the lines of our previous thinking the desirability of setting up of a somewhat similar Central body for Public Sector Steel Plants in India has been indicated in my report to Government. The whole question of re-organisation of Public Sector Steel Industry is presently under examination

## LICENSING POLICY

•568. SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUS-TRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COM-PANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a further liberalisation of the licensing policy by Government; and
- (b) if so, the limit fixed below which licences will not be required?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). According to the liberalised licensing policy announced in January 1964, industrial units whose fixed assets *i.e.* investments in land, building and machinery do

not exceed Rs. 25 lakhs, are not required to obtain an industrial licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, except for certain specified industries. Since then there has been no further revision of this limit of Rs. 25 lakhs.

Accident at Bhadli on Jalgaon-Bhusawal Section (C. RLy.)

- \*569. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there was a serious accident on the 18th November, 1967 at Bhadli station on the Jalgaon-Bhusawal section of the Central Railway;
  - (b) if so, the causes thereof; and
- (c) the number of persons injured and loss to railway property as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) At about 21·18 hours on 18·11·1967 while No. 543 Dn Parcel Express was starting from Bhadli station, No. 39 Dn Bombay—Nagpur Express entered the station and collided with it.

- (b) The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Bombay.
- (c) In this accident 42 persons were injured of whom 4 sustained grievous injuries, 12 minor injuries and the remaining 26 only trival injuries. The cost of damage to railway property has been estimated at approximately Rs. 2,25,350/-.

INDIAN CARGO SEIZED BY PAKISTAN

- \*570. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that according to an official assessment made in Bombay, 90 per cent of the Indian cargo seized by Pakistan during 1965 conflict still remains unreleased:
- (b) whether the total damage has been estimated at Rs. 101 crores;
- (c) whether it is a fact that most of the goods seized by Pakistan have deteriorated and are becoming unsaleable;