

**Unutilised Capacity of Steel Mills**

\*198. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total unutilised capacity in all the Steel Mills in the public sector during the year 1967-68;

(b) has the position improved during this year and if so, to what extent; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to utilise this capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) The total unutilised capacity for ingot production in the Steel Plants under Hindustan Steel Ltd. was about 30 per cent.

(b) Although the actual utilisation of this capacity has not improved during the period April-June, 1968, an improvement is expected in the coming months on account of likely rise in domestic demand and prospects of increased exports.

(c) Full utilisation of capacity depends on a number of factors like level of internal demand, export orders, undisturbed industrial relations, removal of technical deficiencies and other bottlenecks. Besides taking steps to push up their sales in India and abroad, Hindustan Steel Limited have taken up an organised programme of maintenance, provision of balancing facilities and technological improvements so as to utilise capacity more effectively, and also diversify their production to the extent possible.

**C.A.C.O.**

\*199. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL

DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the donations amounting to Rs. 39.66 lakhs distributed by C.A.C.O. on the eve of the Elections were in the nature of political gifts or expenses incurred to advance the cause of the Cement Industry;

(b) whether the recipients of CACO money did approach his Ministry in any manner to advance the cause of CACO by continuing de-control;

(c) if so, the names of the recipients who did so;

(d) whether there is any specific provision in the CACO's Articles of Association and constitution to indulge in such huge expenditure without violation of the provisions of the Company Law;

(e) if not, the specific reasons why legal steps have not been taken against the President and Directors of CACO so far; and

(f) if legal steps are intended, when will they be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) According to information made available by the CACO, a sum of Rs. 34,15,355.55 was donated to political parties and a sum of Rs. 5,35,234.14 was stated to have been spent on advertisement and publicity for cement and other miscellaneous expenditure.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f). The legal position in this regard is under examination.

**Industrial Licensing Policy**

\*200. SHRI N. R. LASKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Advisory Council for Indus-