

current year as compared to the setback it had suffered during 1968-69 ;

(b) if so, the estimated increase in production in this quarter ;

(c) whether the Company expects to use 90 per cent of its installed capacity and to earn a reasonable return on capital employed ; and

(d) what have been its sales, profits and losses during the years from 1966-67 to 1968-69 and what are its estimates for the year 1969-70 ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). The production of machine tools in Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. during the first quarter of 1969-70 was almost on the same level as that of the first quarter of 1968-69, even though it was lower compared to the production in the last quarter of 1968-69. However in view of the improvement in the inflow of orders, the performance during the subsequent quarters of 1969-70 is expected to be comparatively better than that of 1968-69. The production of watches in the Company's Watch Factory continued to maintain the upward trend during the first quarter of 1969-70.

(c) During the year 1969-70 the Company expect to utilise 80% of their plant capacity for production of machine tools subject to regular and adequate inflow of orders. With the fuller utilisation of plant capacity and establishment of new lines of production envisaged, the Company expect to earn a reasonable return on capital employed.

(d) *(Value in Rs. Lakhs)*

	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
Sales	1505	1465	1535	2148
			(provisional)	(estimated)

Net Profit (+)

or Loss (—) (+) 126 (—) 66 (—) 34 Not estimated (provisional)

#### Establishment of a Pig Iron Plant in Haryana

\*358. SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :  
DR SUSHILA NAYAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been a proposal under consideration of Government to establish a pig iron plant in the State of Haryana ;

(b) if so, the progress made so far for its establishment ; and

(c) the funds allocated for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) A Letter of Intent was issued in September, 1963, in the name of the Director of Industries of the then undivided Punjab for setting up a pig iron plant with an annual capacity of 100,000 tonnes in Hissar district.

(b) and (c). In the absence of satisfactory progress, the Letter of Intent was cancelled on the 20th November, 1968.

#### Loss to Railway Property due to Telengana Agitation

\*359. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOUDHRI :  
SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :  
SHRI BISWANARYAN SHASTRI :  
SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE :  
SHRI RAMACHANDRA VEERAPPA :  
SHRI D. B. RAJU :  
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :  
SHRI JUGAL MONDAL :  
SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI :  
SHRI BANSH NARAIN SINGH :  
SHRI BHARAT SINGH CHAUHAN :  
SHRI VISHWA NATH PANDEY :  
SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN :  
SHRI R. K. BIRLA :  
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the loss suffered by the Railways in the Telengana area since the agitation for

a separate State was started there, on account of Railway properties damaged, set fire to etc. and on account of diversion or holding up of passenger and goods traffic ; and

(b) the steps taken to protect Railway properties and to make Railway travel safe through the disturbed areas ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) :** (a) The value of railway property lost, damaged or set fire to in the Telangana agitation upto the end of June 1969 is estimated as Rs. 203 lakhs. The loss on account of diversion or hold up of passenger and goods traffic cannot be identified as the disastrous cyclone in Andhra State coincided with the agitation and the effect of both got merged.

(b) Armed guards of Railway Protection Force/Railway Protection Special Force, Railway Police, and District Police are stationed at Railway stations vulnerable for attacks. In addition, Armed Foot Patrols and Mobile Patrols by engine with brake van have been arranged to protect Railway property and tele-communication equipment. Patrolling by engineering gangmen has also been arranged. Important trains in vulnerable sections are being escorted. Liaison is being maintained with the State Police at the appropriate levels.

#### Completion of Bokaro Steel Plant

\*360. **SHRI D. N. PATODIA :**  
**SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH**  
**SHASTRI :**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction scheduled of the Bokaro Steel Plant has been severely affected because of the labour trouble ;

(b) if so, to what extent the scheduled programme will be delayed ; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to bring about a period of industrial peace in the project area so that the work in the plant is completed without undue delay ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) :** (a) No, Sir. The labour troubles have not been of such serious nature as to affect the construction schedule of the plant.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bokaro Steel Ltd. and Hindustan Steel Works Construction Co. Ltd. have taken steps to ensure, to the extent possible, that the legitimate grievances of the workers employed by the contractors are met by the latter. Steps are also being taken to reorganise the Security Force. Finally, the dispute which arose between the workers and the contractors early in May last has been referred to the arbitration of the Labour Commissioner, Bihar.

#### Import of Raw materials through M.M.T.C. or S.T.C.

2124. **SHRI K. M. KUSHIK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 692 on the 19th March, 1968 and state :

(a) the action taken on the suggestions made by the industrialists at the meeting of the Small Scale Industries Board held in November, 1967 that they would prefer getting their imports direct and not through M.M.T.C. or S.T.C. ; and

(b) if the suggestion of the industrialists has not been accepted, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** (a) and (b). The suggestion could not be accepted for the following reasons :—

- (i) Imports of non-ferrous metals are generally made from Rupee Payment Countries under Trade Plans. There should be one single agency to negotiate imports from these countries,
- (ii) Certain chemical items are imported together both for large and small scale sectors, e.g., mercury, corkwood, mutton tallow and