

of my question at least may be replied to.

Mr. Speaker: I have gone on to the next item, I am sorry.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Bokaro Steel Project

\*321. Shri Sezhayan: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement with the Soviet Government has been finalised on the construction of the Bokaro Steel Project;

(b) if so, the cost of each stage of the project; and

(c) the extent of reduction in cost as compared to the original project report submitted by Soviet experts?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-310/67].

##### Export of coal to Japan

\*325. Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Dr. P. Mondal:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a panel for exploring possibilities of export of coal to Japan and other countries;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the panel; and

(c) the expectations regarding the export of coal and the grades that can be made available for earning foreign exchange?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (c). The Study Group for exports of Coal had, inter alia recommended the setting up of a small Standing Group to report

to the Government as to which are the collieries and coals that may be projected for exports, in particular to Japan, and the probable impact of the export of prime coking coal (Grade A to C) on steel plants. The Government have accepted the recommendation and have constituted a Standing Group consisting of:—

- |                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| (i) Coal Controller           | .. Chairman |
| (ii) Deputy Regional Manager, | .. Member   |
| M.M.T.C., Calcutta.           |             |
| (iii) Coal Mining Adviser,    | .. Member   |
| Department of Mines & Metals  |             |
| (iv) A representative of the  | .. Member   |
| Department of Iron & Steel.   |             |

The recommendations of the Study Group and the views of concerned Departments of Government on the different grades and qualities of coal for export are under examination by the Government.

##### Development of Mining of Minerals

\*326. Dr. P. Mondal:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for providing financial assistance for the development of mining of minerals; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to allow mortgage of mining leases for loans from banks and other financial institutions?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) The existing institutions for providing financial assistance to the mining industry are Industrial Finance Corporation, the finance corporations of the State Governments and the scheduled banks. The Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited are also granting loans to certain mine owners against contracts for supply of ore for purchase of mining machinery/equipment and to provide for development of mines, construction of approach roads and private rail tracks

to the mines, construction of weigh-bridges, etc. Recently, a Study Group was constituted to examine the question of finance for mining industry. This Group has made certain proposals for liberalising the condition for grant of credit to mining industry and introducing in the commercial operations of the banks and other finance institutions a bias in favour of mining industry. These proposals are under consideration.

(b) Under the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, mortgage of mining leases is permissible for taking loans from financial institutions like Industrial Finance Corporations or from the scheduled banks.

**Contributions made to Political Parties by Companies**

\*327. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state the contributions made to the various political parties by Companies from the 1st April, 1966 to 31st March, 1967?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F.A. Ahmed). From the returns furnished by eight out of the sixteen Registrars of Companies, party-wise break-up of the political contributions by companies as disclosed in their profit and loss accounts filed with the Registrars during the period from 1st March, 1966 to 28th February, 1967 is as below:

Name of the Party	Total amount of contribution Rs.
1. Congress	6,27,538
2. Swatantra	13,320
3. Jan Sangh	2,488
4. P.S.P.	2,030
5. S.S.P.	1,021
6. I.N.T.U.C.	500
7. Hindu Maha Samiti	21
8. Akali Dal	10
	6,46,928

As financial years of companies vary widely, these figures to not necess-

sarily relate to contributions made during the period from 1st April, 1966 to 31st March, 1967 and in some cases may include contributions made earlier. The profit and loss accounts of companies for financial years ending after 30th June, 1966, which may contain a part of the desired information, may not have been submitted yet to Registrars of Companies in many cases as the maximum period available to the companies for submission of such accounts after the closing of the accounting year may extend to ten months after the closing date.

**Diesel Locomotive Workshop  
Varanasi**

328. Shri C. Janardhanan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Diesel Locomotive Workshop, Varanasi is threatened with closure due to financial crisis; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet the crisis?

The Minister for Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Consolidation of Company Law**

\*329. Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ram Kishen Gupta:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the need to consolidate Company Law to make it an effective instrument to achieve its objectives and to eradicate the evils in the field of company administration has been examined;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). Provisions of the Company Law were consolidated only eleven years ago and