

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) No, Sir. H. M. T. has made a profit in 11 out of 13 years of its working.

(b) During the year 1968-69, Hindustan Machine Tools Limited suffered a net loss of Rs. 34 lakhs.

(c) and (d). Due to a steep fall in demand for machine tools arising out of the general problem of under utilisation of capacity in the Engineering Industry for the last two to three years, the off take of the products of Hindustan Machine Tools has not been satisfactory. Consequently, the Company had to carry a large stock of machine tools. In order to avoid further accumulation of stocks, the Company had to restrict production,

Concerted efforts are being made by Hindustan Machine Tools Limited to utilise the available manufacturing capacity more fully by diversifying their product range so that the types of sophisticated machine tools which were hitherto being imported could be manufactured by them. The Company has, accordingly, taken up the progressive manufacture of new machine tools like Gear Shapers, Gear Hobbers, All-electric Milling Machines, Multi-spindle Automatics, Single Spindle Automatics, Heavy Duty Surface Grinders, Heavy Duty Lathes Turlet Lathes, Multi-Tool Automatics, Horizontal Boring Machines and Broaching Machines. The Company has also plans to diversify its lines of production by taking up manufacture of Die Casting Machines, Plastic Injection Moulding Machines, Coordinate Drilling and Jig Boring Machines Hydraulic Presses and Press Brakes, Printing Machinery and Agricultural Tractors. To secure fuller utilisation of their manufacturing capacity and to improve their working H. M. T. have also been making vigorous efforts to increase their domestic sales and to export their machine tools and watches. Government have approved of H. M. T. opening of Sales-cum-Service Centres in West Germany, U. S. A. and Australia. The Company have entered into Agency agreements for sales with firms in U. S. A. Sweden, West Germany, Denmark, Yugoslavia, Benelux countries, U. K., Canada and Ceylon, as well as with the State Trad-

ing Corporation of India Ltd., for East European countries. During 1968-69, H. M. T. exported machine tools and watches valued at Rs. 97.37 lakhs, the highest figure achieved so far.

Meeting of Director-In-Charge, Durgapur Steel Plant with West Bengal Deputy Chief Minister

*40. SHRI MOHAN SWARUP :
SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR :
SHRI MANGALATHUMADAM :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director-in-Charge of the Durgapur Steel Plant was summoned by the Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal recently ;

(b) if so, the reasons of this meeting; and

(c) how many times the Director-in-Charge of the Durgapur Steel Plant has visited the Deputy Chief Minister in the past six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Four times.

Indo-Soviet differences on Bokaro Steel Plant Project

*41. SHRI N. K. SOMANI :
SHRI M. R. MASANI :
SHRI R. K. AMIN :
SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM :

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the Hindu (Madras) of the 2nd January, 1970 regarding Indo-Soviet differences on the Bokaro Steel Project which include inter