

"on-account" payments are deducted prorata progressively from the 90% bills of the firm for supply of wagons payable on inspection and acceptance. Against the contracts in question "On-account" payment was made to the two firms to the extent of about Rs. 92 lakhs in respect of M/s K.T. Steel Industries Pvt. Ltd. and Rs 97 lakhs in respect of M/s McKenzies Ltd.,

(b) M/s McKenzies completed the contract in full by 31-3-1970. M/s K.T. Steel Industries supplied 100 BOX wagons and 137 BCX wagons by 31-3-1970 and the balance 63 BCX wagons were completed by them by July, 1970.

(c) The supplies have been completed by the two firms and the 'on-account' payments made stand fully recovered from payments to the two firms against wagons supplied.

Utilization of Scrap Iron

*327. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in foreign countries scrap iron is utilised to meet the 25 percent of the needs of the country;

(b) if so, the comparable figures for India for the last two years ;

(c) how much of the scrap goes waste at present ; and

(d) the steps taken to fully utilise the source to partially meet the needs of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) The percentage of crude steel production by electric furnaces based on scrap utilisation varies from country to country. In 1969, this percentage was 17 in Japan, 19 in France, 40 in Italy and 13 in West Germany. The over-all world average is around 13-4%.

(b) The comparable figures for India for the period 1968-69 and 1969-70 are around 6% and 10% respectively ;

(c) There is no precise estimate of scrap in this country which goes waste. The scrap collected by the scrap dealers which is in excess of the indigenous requirements of the furnaces is, however, allowed to be exported.

(d) Encouragement is being given to the setting up of electric furnace industry based

on scrap for production of steel. Exemption has been given from excise duty to the extent of Rs. 75 per tonne of steel produced from electric furnaces. A liberal approach is being taken for licensing new capacity.

Permission by Swedish Nationals to Adopt Indian Children

*328. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that the Andhra Pradesh Government have permitted ten Swedish nationals to adopt nine Indian children of Hyderabad and to take them to their country on the 11th November, 1970 ;

(b) if so, how many are males and females among these children ; and

(c) whether the Central Government were consulted in this matter by the Andhra Pradesh Government and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Indian Know-how Sought by Foreign Countries for Setting up of Steel Plants

*329. SHRI R. K. BIRLA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state the names of foreign countries which have sought Indian know-how and expertise for setting up their own steel plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : Enquiries have been received from various countries in Africa, South East Asia, Latin America and West Asia for preparation of reports and for supplying of equipment for small steel projects and re-rolling mills.

Looting of Goods From Ranchi-Patna Express Train Near Chandrapura Railway Station

*330. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that masked men