

Ridding for Contract by SAIL in Nigeria

2791. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL could successfully bid for the contract for the operation of the steel plant, in Nigeria;

(b) if so what are the terms and conditions in this regard;

(c) the details of the agreement reached between the Government of Nigeria and SAIL for imparting training to Nigerians in the Steel industry, including the number of persons trained so far for receiving training;

(d) what are the details of any other Indian company involved with any of these steel plants in Nigeria; and

(e) the countries to which SAIL has exported steel since it resumed steel exports and the quantity and the value of steel sold to each country last year and during this year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE!): (a) and (b) Ajaokuta Steel Co. Ltd. (ASCL) of Nigeria issued a letter of intent on May 3, 1983 to M/s. Tiajpromexport of USSR proposing that M/s Tiajpromexport alongwith steel Authority of India Ltd., and other agencies may submit proposals for technical assistance in the operation and maintenance of the Rolling Mill Complex of their Steel Plant. A Consortium comprising of M/s. Tiajpromexport, Steel Authority of India Ltd. and Pas African Consultancy Services (Nige-

ria) Limited was formed by an Agreement dated 27th July, 1983, M/s. Tiajpromexport submitted a proposal to Ajaokuta Steel Co. Ltd. in May, 1984 for the operation of Ajaokuta Steel Plant. The decision of the Nigerian authorities is awaited.

(c) and (d) In November, 1974, an Agreement was reached between Nigerian Steel Development Authority (NSDA), Lagos and the then Hindustan Steel Ltd. (HSL) for training of Nigerian personnel in HSL Steel Plants for periods ranging from 12 months to 18 months. This Agreement was effective for a period of 4 years and expired in August, 1978. Under this Agreement, about 180 Nigerian personnel were required to be trained. This Agreement was later extended for another period of 3 years (with Steel Authority of India Ltd., since HSL merged with SAIL from 1st May, 1978). This extended Agreement provided for training of about 200 Nigerian personnel in the SAIL steel plants. A total of 401 Nigerian personnel were trained in SAIL steel plants.

After the expiry of the above Agreement, Ajaokuta Steel Company Ltd. (formerly NSDA) had approached SAIL to train 635 Nigerian personnel in SAIL steel plants. An Agreement to this effect was initialled by SAIL and ASCL on 30-3-83 but the final Agreement has not yet been signed, the matter is pending with Nigerian side.

MECON entered into an Agreement on 26-2-81 with Delta Steel Company Ltd., Nigeria, for providing training to 135 Nigerian personnel. MECON subsequently entered into a back-up Agreement with SAIL on 1st-12-81 for providing training to 128 Nigerian

personnel. Under this Agreement, one batch of 48 Nigerian personnel were trained in SAIL steel plants. No further batches of Nigerian personnel have been deputed for training to SAIL.

(e) Details of quantity and value of steel exported by SAIL during last year and the current year upto July, 1984, countrywise, are indicated as under :-

Year	Country	Qty. in tonnes	Value in Rs. million
1983-84	Egypt	9776	19.88
	Japan	14613	32.56
1984-85 (upto July 1984-Provisional)	China	17134	1.81
	Egypt	9999	24.49

2792. [Transferred to the 24th August, 1984]

Resumption of Negotiation on Punjab issue

2793. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the leaders of Akali Dal and S.G.P.C. have recently expressed willingness to resume negotiations with the Central Government on the Punjab issue;

(b) whether foreign assistance is still flowing into Punjab even after the Army operation; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH): (a) Government have received no such information.

(b) Some sikh organisations based abroad are reported to have stepped up their fund collection drive to be utilised for various purposes.

(c) The situation in the State is under constant watch and suitable measures are taken from time to time to maintain law and order and conditions of peace. The authorities are vigilant.

Demand to fix Maximum Price of T.V. Sets

2794. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand to fix the maximum price of television sets manufactured by different companies—private and public;

(b) whether Government have accepted this demand if not, whether Government propose to fix maximum price to check profiteering; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that television manufacturers and Government have discussed the question of maximum price, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Electronics consisting of Secretary (Information and Broadcasting), Secretary (Finance), Secretary (Industrial Development), the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries, the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Managing Director, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation, President, Indian TV manu-