

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the industrial units to approach the offices of the State Authority of India Limited at places like Delhi and Patna for these coils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE):

(a) and (b) There is a marginal gap between the overall estimated demand and production of cold rolled coils/sheets and hot rolled coils/sheets for 1984-85. A temporary imbalance has been created by constraints in production due to shortage of power supply especially for Rourkela Steel Plant. To meet the shortfall between the estimated demand and anticipated production, corrective steps are being taken by SAIL to increase production and arrange for imports.

Impact of the recent hike in Steel prices

499. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM:

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

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

(a) whether prices of steel have recently been increased;

(b) if so, to what extent, in respect of each variety of steel;

(c) what are the reasons for the increase;

(d) the number of times the prices of steel was raised during the last two years, indicating the rise in each year;

(e) what impact it is likely to cause on the price trends of various steel

bases product and on the price trend in general; and

(f) what active steps Government propose to take to reduce the prices of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) to (d) The Joint Plant Committee of main producers of iron and steel had announced on June 21, 1984 an average increase of 15 per cent in the prices of iron and steel. The prices of iron and steel were revised during 1982-83 and 1983-84 also. Details of and reasons for these changes in respect of some of the representative categories of iron and steel are given in the Statement. [See Appendix CXXXI, Annexure No. 12].

(e) Impact of increase in prices of iron and steel on the economy is expected to be marginal.

(f) Price revision has been made mainly on account of increases in costs of production.

500. [Transferred to the 27th July, 1984].

Activities of Extremists in Tripura

501. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that armed extremists of Tripura National Volunteers killed at least eight security men including six CRPF jawans and looted the arms and ammunitions from them in an ambush at RAIBARI (Tripura) on June 22, 1984;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to round-up these extremists; and

(c) what is Government's assessment about the activities of the ex-