

**Standing Committee for Organising
Rural Labour**

391. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:
SHRI S. KUMARAN;

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government propose to set
up a Standing Committee for continuous
monitoring of the progress made in
organising the rural labour and extending
social security scheme to them; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this
regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
LARANG SAD: (a) and (b) Action has been
initiated to set up a Central Standing
Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour as
recommended by the Special Conference held
on the subject on 25-1-1978.

UN Resolution on the Indian Ocean

392. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH

AND: SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA;

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state;

(a) whether the recent USA-USSR talks
on the Indian Ocean have in any way
improved the prospects of convening a
conference of the littoral countries as
envisaged in the UN Resolution on the Indian
Ocean: and

(b) whether the Government of India have
taken any further steps for the implementation
of the Resolution?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE): (a) The fourth round of
bilateral talks on the Indian Ocean between
the USA and the USSR have

recently concluded. Both countries have been
keeping the Ad-hoc Committee on the Indian
Ocean informed of progress in these talks. A
meeting of littoral and hinterland States has
been called for in the resolution adopted at the
recently concluded 32nd Session of the UN
General Assembly, as a preparatory step to the
holding of a conference which would include
the participation of the great Powers and
major maritime users of the Indian Ocean.
Without such participation of the great powers
and major maritime users of the Indian Ocean.
Without such participation, any meeting or
conference would be ineffective.

(b) India has been actively participating in
the discussions in the General Assembly of
the United Nations, and in particular, in the
Ad-hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, Gov-
ernment have urged on all concerned the need
to urgently convene a Conference on the
Indian Ocean with the participation of the
great Powers and other major maritime users
of the Indian Ocean.

Export of Steel Sheets to a U.S. Firm

393. SHRI SAN AT KUMAR RAHA: Will
the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to
export steel sheets to a U.S. firm:

(b) if so, what are the details in this
regard; and

(c) how does the present selling rate of
the steel sheets compare with the world
market rate of this variety of steel sheets?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b)
Government have not placed any export order
on any U.S. firm. However, SAIL International
Ltd. have concluded seven contracts.