

to giving chances of submission to other candidates borne on the Register of the Employment Exchange.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

**Profits shown by SAIL and other Steel Plants**

1222. SHRI SHYAM LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL had a record profit during 1976-77;

(b) if so, what are the comparative profits recorded by SAIL during the years 1975-76 to 1976-77;

(c) what are the comparative profits recorded by the Bhilai, Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants during 1975-76 and 1976-77; and

(d) what are the factors contributing towards the profits and in what manner Government propose to keep up the profits of the steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The aggregate profit of the various subsidiaries of SAIL in 1976-77 amounted to Rs. 73.26 crores which was a record. The corresponding figure for 1975-76 was Rs. 30.29 crores.

(c) The working results of Bhilai, Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants during the year 1975-76 and 1976-77 are indicated below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Plant	1975-76	1976-77
Bhilai Steel Plant (+)	28.22 (+)	49.05
Rourkela Steel Plant (+)	28.33 (+)	33.13
Durgapur Steel Plant (—)	20.06 (—)	7.73
Bokaro Steel Plant (—)	16.94 (+)	1.76

(d) Higher production and larger contribution from exports realisation were the main factors for improved working results of the Steel Plants in

1976-77. This trend in improvement is sought to be maintained by increased production and productivity and by ensuring economies in expenditure.

**Shortage of explosives in Mica Mines**

1223. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the mica mines in the Koderma mining area have come to a standstill as a result of shortage of explosives; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what measures Government are taking to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b) It is not a fact that almost all the mica mines in Koderma mining area have come to a standstill as a result of shortage of explosives. The Koderma Mica Mining Association has, however, informed that mica mining operation in that area had been affected due to non supply of ordinary detonators (No. 6). No representation from the mine owners or the Association has been received regarding short supply of other types of explosives. A review of the production figures of mica for the period April to September 1977 from various districts of Bihar, where the mica mines are located, shows that there has been no significant fall in the production in any district. The strike in the factory of the Indian Explosives Ltd., Gomia which caused the shortage has already been called off and the supplies are expected to be restored.