

Expansion of the India Iron and Steel Company

326. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Iron and Steel Company has submitted an expansion plan for approval by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) No, Sir. Indian Iron and Steel Company have commissioned M/s. M. N. Dutt & Company to prepare a feasibility study to assess which should be taken for the modernisation and rehabilitation of a steel plant at Burnpur so that the pollution at the plant can be improved. The report is yet to be received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Loss of Life and Property suffered by Tamilians in Sri Lanka Disturbances

327. SHRI M. KADERSHAH:
DR. V. P. DUTT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report from our Mission in Colombo about the extent of damage to property and loss of life suffered by Tamilians in Sri Lanka in the recent anti-Tamil agitation in that country; and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the Government of Sri Lanka and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAEE) : (a) The reports on the recent disturbances in Sri Lanka received by the Government do not indicate the precise magnitude of loss of life and property. However, according to the best available estimates, 131 persons, including Tamils, lost their lives during the disturbances and the loss of property may run into crores of rupees.

(b) The cases of claims of compensation for loss suffered by Indian nationals persons of Indian origin, who have applied for repatriation to India under the Indo-Sri Lanka Arrangement, have been taken up with the Government of Sri Lanka. The Government has been assured of adequate compensation such cases. In the meantime, the Government of Sri Lanka are engaged in rehabilitating the displaced persons and in restoring normally in the affected areas.

Commemorative Stamps

328. SHRI M. KADERSHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commemorative stamps issued since April, 1977;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Governments' consideration to issue a commemorative stamps in honour of the renowned social reformer E.V.Ramaswamy Periyar; is so, by when the same is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) A list of Postage Stamps issued since April 1977 is placed on the Table of Rajya Sabha.

(b) Yes. No decision has been taken so far.