

of workers have been rendered unemployed; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to provide jobs to such workers of the bidi industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Bidi Workers in Registered Bidi Factories**

296. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bidi workers in registered bidi factories in each state; and

(b) the number of sick or closed bidi factories at present ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) and (b). The required information is being collected from State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Extra Departmental Sorters and Porters in the PT Department**

297. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State :

(a) whether it is a fact that persons working as Extra Departmental Sorters have been asked by the Posts and Telegraphs Department to work as Class IV Extra Departmental porters before they are allowed to appear for the promotion examination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Extra Departmental Sorters, who are matriculates, are not absorbed as regular full time Sorters while Extra Departmental Porters

who have no qualifications are absorbed within three years in that cadre ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir, They are merely part-time workers not like IV employees who are whole time workers.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Training of IFS personnel**

298. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce basic changes in the training of the Indian Foreign Service personnel; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : (a) and (b). The training programme for IFS officers has been carefully drawn up to serve the requirements of the Foreign Service. It is kept constantly under review and further modification could be made if any shortcomings are evident or improvements are considered expedient.

#### **Reorganisation of public sector steel industry**

299. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to reorganise the public sector steel industry; and

(b) if so, what are the broad features of the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided that the public sector steel plants should be brought under the over-all control of an integral company so that it can function as an integrated steel complex and all activities which are not directly related to steel production be kept outside its purview. The broad features of the proposed reorganisation are as under :

(i) Hindustan Steel Limited, Bokaro Steel Limited, Salem Steel Limited, SAIL International Limited, Bhilai Ispat Limited, Rourkela Ispat Limited and Durgapur Mishra Ispat Limited which are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Steel Authority of India Limited will be merged in Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and these will function as divisions of SAIL.

(ii) The shares presently held by Government in Indian Iron and Steel Company limited will be transferred to SAIL and it will become a subsidiary of SAIL. After the shares held by the financial institutions and others are also taken over, IISCO will also become a division of SAIL.

(iii) Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (India) Limited, Hindustan Steel works Construction Limited and National Mineral Development Corporation, wholly-owned subsidiaries of SAIL, will become independent companies under the direct administrative control of the Department of Steel. Kiriburu and Meghataburu Iron Ores Mines of NMDC will, however, be transferred to SAIL to serve as captive units of Bokaro Steel Plant.

(iv) Bharat Refractories Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bokaro

Steel Limited, and all other refractories units will come under the direct control of the Department of Steel.

(v) Central Coal Washeries of Hindustan Steel Limited at Dugda, Bhojudih and Patherdih will be transferred to Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

(vi) There will be functional divisions in SAIL to look after matters of policy at the corporate level and to manage the affairs of its various units.

(vii) Maximum autonomy will be given to the Chief Executives of the various units so as to ensure these units working with maximum efficiency. It is proposed to give effect to these proposals by means of legislation.

#### Unemployment in Orissa

300. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what was the number of registered unemployed in Orissa as on the (i) the 30th March, 1977, and (ii) the 30th September, 1977;

(b) what is the number of such unemployed persons who were employed in small scale and cottage industries during the period from the 30th March to 30th September, 1977; and

(c) what are the proposals in hand to provide employment to the remaining persons?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b). The available information relating to job-seekers registered with the Employment Exchanges in Orissa (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) refers to 31st March 1977 and 31st August,