

(b) if so, what are the findings and recommendations of the mission for improving the work of collection and compilation of Industrial Statistics; and

(c) which of these recommendations have been accepted by Government?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Recommendations of the Steering Committee on Industrial Statistics

1188. SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of meetings of the Steering Committee on Industrial Statistics held during 1977-78 and upto the 30th June in 1978-79 to review the work relating to the annual survey of industries, index of industrial production and utilisation of industrial capacity;

(b) whether the Steering Committee has made any suggestions for improvement in the method of collection and compilation of the statistics; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) The Steering Committee met once in 1977-78 and upto 30th June 1978-79. The Committee deals with work relating to annual survey of industries and does not review the work relating to index of industrial production and utilisation of industrial capacity.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government have taken action to give effect to the recommendations made by the Committee from time to time for streamlining the collection and compilation of data on the annual survey of industries.

Production of salt in the country

1189. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of salt produced at the various centres in each State during the years 1975 to 1978, year-wise;

(b) what are the prevailing rates of Salt per quintal in each State;

(c) what are the requirements of salt in each State;

(d) what is the quantity of salt exported to various countries during the period from 1975 to 1978 year-wise;

(e) whether Government have received any complaints regarding non-supply of sufficient number of railway wagons for movement of salt stocks which is affecting its price parity in various States; and

(f) what steps Government have taken up to ensure supply of sufficient number of wagons for movement of salt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (d) Statements I, II, III, IV giving state-wise production figures of salt during 1975 to 1978 (upto June), rates of salt per kilogram prevailing in selected centres during 1978 (January-June), annual requirements of the States and quantities of salt exported to various countries during 1975 to 1978 (upto June) are enclosed.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. However, as against the assessed requirements of 64,729 wagons for edible salt during the period from January to June 1978, 66,735 wagons of salt were loaded during that period. Thus, movement of salt has been more than the overall requirements though local or temporary shortage of wagons were experienced, which were taken up with the Railways for quick remedial action.