

in May, 1977, have not been appointed even though they have completed the prescribed three months' training;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and by when they are likely to be appointed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the candidates called for the telephone operators training commencing in June, 1978 are likely to be put on regular rolls soon after the completion of their training; and

(d) if not, by when they will be appointed as regular telephone operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Non-Acceptance of the tender of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd

1351. SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tender submitted by the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd. for the erection of the low temperature carbonisation plant at Dankuni in West Bengal has not been accepted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Article Entitled Gangsterism or Revolutionary by Shri N. G. Goray

1352. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: SHRIMATI USHI KHAN: SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article by Shri N. G. Goray, Indian High Commissioner in U.K. which was published in 'Sadhana' dated the 27th May, 1978 under the title 'Gangsterism or Revolutionary'; and

(b) whether Government permit India's envoys to express their political views in public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Envoys, whether government servants or public figures, are expected to express their views in public in a way which does not conflict with Government policies or cause embarrassment.

Shortfall in Production in Steel Plants

1353. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 529 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st July, 1978 and state the extent of shortfall in production in each steel plant as a result of the short supply of coal during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): Due to the short supply of coking coal during the last 6 months, it became necessary to reduce the pushing rate of coke ovens at some of the Steel Plants to avoid further depletion of the coking coal