

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Coke Oven Batteries have to be rebuilt after they have served their life. Emergency and major repairs are carried out from time to time during the period when they are in operation. Rebuilding of Battery No. 2A was taken up as it was felt that the repairs mentioned above would no longer be economical. This was as per recommendations of an Experts Committee appointed by the Chairman of ex-Hindusthan Steel Ltd. The cost of re-building of the battery was Rs. 218.66 lakhs.

(c) Rebuilding was carried out by M/s Otto (India) Ltd.

#### Non-availability of G. C. Sheets

468. SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN:  
SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN  
SARING:

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of applications for the supply of G. C. sheets are pending with the Sales Depot of the Steel Authority of India; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to provide sufficient quantity of G.C. sheets to the common consumers in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Consumers of G.C. sheets, especially those in North Eastern Region, have been approaching SAIL stockyards for this material. Availability in the home market of these sheets has come down during the last three or four months due to transport bottlenecks, seasonal spirit in demand, prior export commitments, etc. SAIL is taking every step to rush supplies

to the affected areas, if necessary by road, even if connected by Rail. In so far as demands of consumers in Jammu & Kashmir are concerned, a quantity of 1434 tonnes was despatched by SAIL to the State during April—June 1978 as compared to 6083 tonnes during the whole of 1977-78. It is expected that supplies to the State will be maintained at the level of last year.

#### Demands of the workers of the Telecommunication Office, Calcutta

469. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the employees of the office of the General Manager, Telecommunication Factories at Calcutta are agitating for over two and half months;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce workers' participation in management in these factories; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for Government not having discussed the proposed scheme with the accredited representatives of the employees' unions till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration at present.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Abolition of Control Level Office at Calcutta

470. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to abolish the Control Level Office of the Telecommunication Factory at Calcutta; and