

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****Closure of Sleeper and Fish-plate Units of Durgapur Steel Plant**

\*94. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :  
SHRI KALYAN ROY :

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

(a) whether the sleeper and fish-plate manufacturing units of the Durgapur Steel Plant have been closed down ;

(b) if so, since when and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the installed capacity of each of these units ;

(d) what is the nature of the orders placed by the Railways with these units for sleepers and fish-plates during the last two years till the end of March, 1976 ; and

(e) whether the matter regarding placing of further orders with these units was taken up with the Ministry of Railways and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRA JIT YADAV) :

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sleeper Plant was brought down to one shift working with effect from the 2nd February, 1976, from its normal three shifts working and it was closed down from the 27th February, 1976.

The Fish Plate Plant was restricted to single shift working with effect from April, 1975 against normal of two shift working and was closed down from the 12th February, 1976.

Both the Plants had to be shut-down for lack of orders from the Railways. 11 RSS/76—2

(c) The installed capacity of the Sleeper Plant is 75,000 tonnes per annum and that of the Fish Plate Plant is 11,000 tonnes per annum.

(d) The orders placed by the Railways with these units during the last two years are as under :—

	1974-75 (tonnes)	1975-76 (tonnes)
Sleepers	62,160	66,045
Fish Plates	3,412	962

(e) Yes, Sir. The Railways have since placed orders for 46,581 tonnes of Sleepers and 625 tonnes of Fish-plates.

**Linking of District headquarters in Maharashtra with Bombay by S.T.D.**

\*99. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state district headquarters in Maharashtra which are likely to be connected with Bombay by the S.T.D. system during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : The following District Headquarters in Maharashtra are likely to be connected to Bombay by S.T.D. during the current year :—

- (i) Sangli ;
- (ii) Amraoti; and
- (iii) Jalgaon.

**Visit of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka**

H00. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka recently paid a two-day visit to New Delhi;

(b) whether the agenda for the forthcoming non-aligned summit in Colombo was discussed with her; and