

Auction of scrap by Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.

*101. SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHODHARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the procedure evolved by the Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. to get increased prices for their scrap through auction instead of having negotiated arrangements with a few parties as is being done by the SAIL plants; and

(b) whether the SAIL and the scrap merchants have opposed the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a). Yes, Sir. The items of scrap auctioned by Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited are mostly old dismantled machinery and equipment. In the Steel Plants of Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur also which are under SAIL, similar items are generally sold by tender or auction.

(b) No, Sir. The system to sell by tender or by auction introduced in Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited after the Government take over, was largely based on the practice followed in the public sector steel plants.

Anti-India propaganda by the Chinese Embassy in Nepal

*102. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI GANESH LAL MALI:
SHRIMATI PRAJIBHA SINGH:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu continues to circulate anti-Indian propaganda over the Sikkim developments in spite of Indian Embassy's protest against such actions;

(b) whether the New China News Agency has circulated a bulletin carrying an attack on Indian leaders in the

third week of October, 1974; if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b) The Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu has been circulating some anti-Indian propaganda material concerning the developments in Indo-Sikkim relations. According to our information the Chinese Embassy circulated material of this nature in its bulletins of the 22nd, 28th and 31st October, 1974. The bulletin of the 22nd October criticised the Prime Minister of India.

(c) On several occasions we have drawn the attention of the Nepalese Government to this type of material being circulated by the Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu with the aim of disrupting Indo-Nepal relations.

Amendment of Industrial Disputes Act

*103. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI JAGBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee appointed by the Gujarat Government in 1972 to review labour laws has recommended the amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act to provide for direct access of workers to labour courts in respect of individual disputes; and

(b) if so, the details of the other recommendations made by the committee and the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b) A copy of the report of the Labour Laws Review Committee set up by the Government of Gujarat has been received on 14th November, 1974. The report is being studied.