

(b) Applications received from some entrepreneurs who claim to have taken effective steps for setting up mini steel plants in West Bengal, in accordance with the Liberalised Industrial Licencing Policy in force up to the end of October, 1973, are under consideration.

Report of Committee on D. S. P.

923. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee appointed to go into the capacity of production in Durgapur Steel Plant has since submitted its report:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken by Government on the recommendation of the Committee ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) No Committee was appointed for examining the capacity of the Durgapur Steel Plant. However, the Action Committee of the Planning Commission which recently examined the working of the Durgapur Steel Plant is expected to cover this aspect also. The final report of the Committee is awaited.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Steel Equalisation Price

924. SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that steel equalisation of price is proposed to be abolished ;

(b) if so, whether the prices, of all essential industrial raw materials are proposed to be equalised in the country; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information in regard to other essential industrial raw materials is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Case of Forgery against Ex-film Actress

925. SHRI B.P. NAGARAJA MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Hindustan Standard of 1st July, 1974 to the effect that an ex-film actress and her brother had recently been implicated in a case of forgery;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Calcutta based firm headed by them were carrying on liaison work with the Steel Controller in Calcutta on behalf of a firm said to be located in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Bureau of Investigation have registered a case and it is under investigation.

Portuguese domination over Roman Catholic Church of Goa

926. SHRI R. K. MISHRA :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
DR. V. B. SINGH :
SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Portuguese authorities still exercise a vote on the appointment of the Patriarch of the Roman Catholic Church and consequently over that of the Bishops and the Clergy of Goa;

(b) whether the patriarch clergymen represented by the Pilar Missionary Society in Goa made representation to the Government of India to move actively in the matter to end the Portuguese stronghold over the Roman Catholic Church of Goa;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Vatican supports the Portuguese domination over the Roman Catholic Church of Goa; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to end this anomalous situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a)

Under the Concordat of 1886 the Government of Portugal has the right of patronage in the appointment of Archbishops and Bishops. At present, however, there is only an Apostolic Administrator running the affairs of the Church in Goa.

(b) Some members of the Pilar Society have represented to the Government of India in the matter.

(c) It is an old Concordat but we have reason to expect that a healthy change, in keeping with present realities is under way.

(d) The problem really is the Concordat which is out of date. The Government have taken up the matter with the Vatican.

Amendment of Factories Act

927. SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide in the Factories Act appointment of safety officers in factories employing 1,000 or more workers engaged in hazardous operations; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) and (b) Yes. A proposal to amend the Factories Act, 1948 with a view to empowering the State Governments to require factories wherein one thousand workers or more are ordinarily employed or where any manufacturing process or operation carried on exposes any person employed in it to serious risk of bodily injury, poisoning or disease, to employ safety officers is under consideration.

Allegations against Custodian I.I.S.C.O.,

928. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRI GANESH LAL MALI :
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Members of Parliament from West Bengal have demanded a probe by the CBI into serious lapses and irregularities alleged to have been committed by Shri A. Ray, the Custodian of the IISCO;

(b) if so, the details of the allegations and what action Government propose to take in this regard; and

(c) how far the IISCO has worked below capacity since its take-over and how the production pattern compares with that prevalent in the preceding two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b) Some allegations have recently been levelled by some members of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and a Member of the Lok Sabha from Bihar against Shri Arabinda Ray, formerly Custodian of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited. These allegations are under examination. It would not be desirable to disclose the details of the allegations at the present stage.

(c) The installed capacity and the actual production in the Burnpur Steel Plant of the Company, during the past few years has been as under :—

- (1) Installed capacity: 1,000,000 tonnes of steel ingots or
800,000 tonnes of saleable steel
- (2) Actual production:

(In thousands of tonnes)

	1970-71	1971-72	April/June 72 (Quarter immediately before take over)	July 72- June 73.	July 73- June 74
Steel Ingots	627	617	91	451	438
Saleable Steel	508	500	66	358	355