

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA): Month-wise steam coal received by Southern Railway since April, 1973 :

Month	Quantity received in tonnes
April, 1973	1,03,423
May	1,14,003
June	1,14,585
July	1,13,425
August	1,17,894
September	90,161
October	1,04,718

Abandonment of Aluminium Project in Ratnagiri

968. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR.

SHRI VITHAL GADGIL.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Aluminium Project in Ratnagiri has been abandoned; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Small Steel Plants

969. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA-NARAYANA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small steel plants (electric furnace units) of five ton, fifteen and twenty tonnes capacity in the country, State-wise;

(b) the annual production of steel in each category during the last three years; State-wise;

(c) the percentage of the contribution made by small steel plants in the steel production of the country during the last three years;

(d) the difficulties faced by the small steel plants during this period, and the steps taken by Government for giving assistance in accordance with the policy of increasing production, together with the results thereof; and

(e) what is the future scheme in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Wagon Industry

970. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA-NARAYANA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wagon industry in the country has been facing difficulty for some years and whether there has been sharp deterioration in its physical and financial operations; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the deterioration in the running of the wagon Industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons are as follows :

(i) Non-availability of steel.

(ii) Delayed availability of components and free supply items.

(iii) Inadequacies in infrastructure, notably in transport and power sectors.

(iv) Uneven industrial relations.

(v) Management failure in production planning & financial management.