

DAMAGE TO ORE HANDLING PLANT AT PARADEEP PORT

824. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the iron ore mines in Orissa are facing a crisis because of huge stock piled up in the mines due to the damage to the ore-handling plant at Paradeep port and a reduction in MMTC's indents; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ease the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) The ore handling plant at Paradeep port has been repaired and commissioned with effect from 13-2-1973 and shipments are now taking place smoothly.

(b) Does not arise.

पाकिस्तान को शस्त्रों की सप्लाई

825. श्री भूपेन्द्र नारायण मंडल : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रूस, ईरान के माध्यम से पाकिस्तान को सैनिक साज सामान की सप्लाई कर रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

t [ARMS SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN

825. SHRI B. N. MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia is supplying military hardware to Pakistan through Iran; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

† [] English translation.

t [THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

WORKERS UNEMPLOYED

826. SHRI SAN AT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to closure of some 200 small scale electric bulb making industries in West Bengal, 32,000 workers have been rendered unemployed; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to save these small scale lamp making industries in West Bengal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b) The matter falls essentially in the State sphere.

SHORTAGE OF MOTOR CHASIS IN THE COUNTRY

827. SHRI SARDARAMJADALI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of chasis of heavy trucks and other public carriage vehicles in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T.A. PAI): (a) Yes, Sir. The shortage relates mainly to vehicles of two popular makes for which customers have to wait for about 18 to 21 years.

(b) Government have approved the schemes of the manufacturers of these two makes for expanding their production capacity. A third unit has also been permitted to expand. Government have also approved four new schemes envisaging a total capacity of 54,000 vehicles per annum.