

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

(b) The details of the incident are
as follows:

On 21st December, 1972, at 40.00
hours (local time) four shots were
fired at the main door of the Con-
sulate General of India, New York,
three of them making clean holes and
the fourth one piercing even the in-
ner glass door. In the opinion of the
local police who took up investiga-
tion, the shots appeared to have been
fired by a powerful rifle from a car
parked across the street. The local
police were also assisted by the
F.B.I. However the security agencies
have not been able to identify the
person/persons responsible for this.
They had however strengthened the
security arrangements near our Mis-
sion.

(c) Our Ambassador in Washington
took up this matter with the State
Department and the F.B.I. investiga-
tion was at their behest. All our
Missions have been given detailed in-
structions regarding security measures
to be adopted in dealing with such
problems.

Since the details of the incident were
communicated immediately, no special
report as such was received.

ESPIONAGE ON SRILANKA NATIONALS VISITING INDIA

1668. SHRI K. C. PANDA:
SHRI DAHYABHAI V.
PATEL:

SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAU-
DHARY:

SHRI C. D. PANDE:
SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:
SHRI SUNDAR MANI
PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the
Government of Srilanka have been

spying in India on their nationals
visiting this country;

(b) whether Government have re-
ceived any report in this regard from
Tamil Nadu Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL
SINGH): (a) Government do not
have any information in this respect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

STRIKE BAN BY WEST BENGAL 1669. SHRI KALYAN ROY: SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government's atten-
tion has been drawn to serious criti-
cisms by all the Central Trade Union
Organisations regarding the decision
of the West Bengal Government to
ban strikes; and

(b) if so, whether the matter has
been taken up with the West Bengal
Government and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION (SHRI K. V.
RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) The
reference presumably is to the Indus-
trial Disputes (West Bengal Amend-
ment) Ordinance. Government have
received representations against the
proposed Ordinance

(b) The matter is under examina-
tion.

VIOLATION OF SAFETY REGULA- TIONS BY COAL MINES WORKERS

1670. SHRI KALYAN ROY:
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that majo-
rity of non-coking colliery manage-
ments who are receiving subsidy and

financial assistance through the Coal Board from the Government are violating Safety and Conservation Laws; and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of coal mines who have received subsidy and assistance in 1971 and 1972 but are being prosecuted by the Director General of Mines Safety for serious violation of various Safety Laws; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA): (a) The non-coking collieries which were reported to have violated Safety and Conservation Rules were not paid any subsidy by the Coal Board.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PRICING POLICY OF STEEL

1671. SHRI J. S. TILAK:

SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH
MUSAFIR:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:
SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

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

(a) whether pricing policy for steel has been finalised for the existing and coming units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA): (a) and (b). The present steel pricing broadly follows the principles enunciated by the Tariff Commission in 1962, taking into account cost of production, reasonable return, etc., on a 'standard' plant. Subsequent increases in prices were allowed taking into consideration escalations in cost, while the price increase allowed with effect from January 1, 1970, also took into account the financial needs of Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. for its replacement and modernisation programme.

21 RSD.—3.

EXPANSION OF PRODUCTION IN DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

1672. SHRI M. K. MOHTA:

MISS SAROJ PURUSHOT-
TAM KHAPARDE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
RAHA:

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

(a) whether Government are examining the feasibility of the programme for expansion of production at Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the financial implications of the expansion of the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA): (a) to (c). The Central Engineering and Design Bureau of Hindustan Steel have been commissioned to prepare a detailed feasibility study of expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant. The details of the possible expansion programme such as capacity, cost, etc., will be available only after the feasibility report is received.

VIGILANCE WORK IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY

1673. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the arrangements which existed in the Department of Supply at the level of Joint Secretary to look after the vigilance and purchase work separately before the creation of another post of Joint Secretary; and the reasons for entrusting the vigilance work to the same person after his promotion; and

(b) whether any person has since been selected for the post of D.G., I.S.M., London and if so, the details thereof and the reasons which weighed with Government in the matter of selection and if not, when the decision is likely to be taken in the matter?