

previous consultation with Pakistan or unilaterally ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) to (d) Clause 4 of the Indo-Pak Agreement signed in Simla provides for the withdrawal of Indian and Pakistani forces to their side of the inter-" national border and for the line of delineation in Jammu and Kashmir resulting from the ceasefire of December 1971, to be respected by both sides without prejudice to the recognised position of either side. The withdrawals were to be completed within a period of 30 days of the entry into force of the Agreement. Since no agreement could be reached on the delineation of the line of control in J&K, the position was reviewed by the representatives of India and Pakistan who met in Delhi from 25th to 29th August, 1972. According to the Delhi Agreement, the delineation of the line was to be completed by 4th September 1972 and the withdrawals to the international border by 15th September, 1972. Since the delineation of the line of control has not yet been finalised, it has not been possible for both sides to commence the withdrawal of their troops to the international border.

E. S. I. CONTRIBUTION BY HOOGHLY DOCKING AND ENGINEERING CO., LTD.

♦246. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:

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

(a) whether Government have taken note of the fact that the management of the Hooghly Docking and Engineering Co., Ltd. has not paid ESI contributions amounting to Rs. 3 lakhs to the Employees State Insurance Corporation ; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : Recovery of contributions under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 is the responsibility of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. The Corporation has reported as under :

(a) The present amount of default towards Employees' State Insurance dues is Rs. 2.53 lakhs.

(b) Legal action has been taken for

recovery of Rs. 1.94 lakhs. For the balance amount, legal action is not yet due, but show cause notices are under issue.

DIFFERENCE OVER STEEL IMPORT POLICY

♦247. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI K. C. PANDA: SHRI M. K. MOHTA: SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL : SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :

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

(a) whether there are serious differences between his Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Trade regarding the steel import policy ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government's attention has been invited in this regard to a report published in the Economic Times of the 7th September, 1972, and if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The report published in the Economic Times of September 7, 1972 with regard to a "major tussle" between the Ministries of Foreign Trade and Steel in matters of Steel import policy is not correct.

RECOGNITION OF P. R. G. OF SOUTH VIETNAM

*248. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of recognising the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam has been considered by Government ; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Attention is invited to the answer given to Starred Question No. 275 on the same subject in the Rajya Sabha on 11.8.72. There has been no change in the position since then.