

Prisoners of War were killed and 18 other injured in a P. O. W's. camp in Madhya Pradesh when rebellious group of P. O. W's. attacked a brigadier and his escort on October 3, 1972 ;

(b) if so, the precise details of the incident ; and

(c) the reaction of International Red Cross Observers on this incident and that of Pakistan Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Six Prisoners were killed and 22 injured in the incident. Of the injured prisoners, 2 succumbed to injuries later in the hospital.

(b) An attempt was made by Pakistani Prisoners of War to over-power the Brigadier and his escort of Armed Policemen. In the scuffle, one of the prisoners managed to snatch a bayonet and to use it to inflict injuries on the sentry and two other officers. The escort had then to open fire in self-defence. Minimum force was used to prevent the situation from getting out of control.

(c) Delegates of the International Committee of Red Cross had visited the Camp but their report is awaited. Pakistan Government sent a protest note on the incident through Embassy of Switzerland in India. This note has been repudiated by Government of India.

FIRST BLAST FURNACE AT BOKARO

792. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first blast furnace at Bokaro has been inaugurated, if so, the stage of production so far reached at that plant ; and

(b) how far the cost of the project has exceeded the original estimate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The first blast furnace was commissioned on the 3rd October, 1972. It is now producing pig iron at the rate of about 1350 tonnes per day.

(b) The original estimate of cost of the first stage of Bokaro Steel Plant (1.7 million tonnes stage), made in 1966, was Rs. 671 crores. The revised estimate approved by the Government in February, 1972 is Rs. 758 crores.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

793. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Expert Committee of the Union Government visited Chandigarh sometime in September, 1972 and made certain observations with regard to the reasons for unemployment among industrial workers ; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations/suggestions made by this Committee in this regard, and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) The Expert Committee on Unemployment visited Chandigarh on the 5th and 6th September, 1972 as part of its visits to the various States to record evidence and elicit views and opinions on the Committee's terms of reference. The Committee's final recommendations will be known only when it submits its report by the end of February, 1973.

ADMISSION IN SAINIK SCHOOLS

794. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the rules of admission of students in Sainik Schools in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Under the Sainik Schools Society, Rules and Regulations, admission of boys to Sainik School is made on the basis of an All India Entrance Examination held every year on a time-table as promulgated by the Honorary Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, New Delhi, for the academic term commencing July each year.

2. The Entrance Examination is primarily held for admission to class V only and Sainik Schools that have vacancies in class VI also hold tests for admission to Class VI. Admission to Class VI is restricted to candidates from within the State in which the School is situated/located and boys for Class VI are not offered seats in any other Sainik Schools outside the State. The number of boys to be admitted each year is decided by the Society.

3 The age limits for admission to Sainik Schools in Classes V and VI are as follows :