SECURITY OF THE EMPLOYEES INSIDE DURGAVUR STEEL PLANT

400. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

Will the MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the management of Durgapur Steel Plant are not taking any steps for the security of Durgapur Steel employees inside and outside the Plant; and

(b) if so, the reasons for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ (KHAN): (a) & (b) Patrolling by the State Armed Police and the Central Industrial Security Force Personnel has been introduced throughout the plant following a few incidents of stabbing assault etc., inside the plant. As regards the township, some complaints were received from individuals, unions, etc., about threats to life. During the period from 11th to 16th June, 1972 a number of violent incidents were also reported in and around the township resulting from clashes apparently between the supporters of different unions. Maintenance of Law and Order in the township is primarily the responsibility of the State Government and the management are prompt in obtaining the assistance of the State Government for this.

CLOSURE OF FOUNDRIES IN WEST BENGAL DUE TO NONAVAILABILITY OF RAW MATERIAL

401. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a statement made by the President of Indian Foundries Association regarding the

I critical situation faced by the foundries I of West Bengal due to non-availability I of raw material:

- I (b) whether a large number of foundries has already been closed and some are on the point of closure; and
 - (c) if so, v\hat remedial measure Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES NAWAZ KHAN): (a) (SHRI SHAH to (c) Government have no information about large number of foundries in West Bengal lying closed and some on the point of closure due j to non-availability raw materials. . While there is no difficulty about avail-; ability of pig iron, there is some diffi-i culty regarding the transport arrangements for despatches. This problem is ! constantly reviewed with the { Railways and every effort is being made i to solve it.

I INVESTMENT MADE BY N.C.D.C, IN WEST BENGAL

402. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that National Coal Development Corpo-I ration (N.C.D.C.) Ltd. invested 250 crores of rupees for Bihar, Madhya, Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra, whereas nothing has been invested for the development of coal mines in West Bengal; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons thereof?

I HE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The N.C.D.C.

has made a total investment of about Rs. 200 crores all over the country j including Rs. 72.40 lakhs on prospect-! ing and boring operations in West! Bengal.