

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/ विदेश मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Four Power Agreement on Berlin was signed on 3rd September, 1971.

(b) Government welcomes the agreement as an important step towards detente in Europe.

WORKERS' SHARE IN PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

671. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to enable workers to hold shares in the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the proposal has been also discussed with the Central Trade Unions; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) Yes.

(b), (c) and (d) Details of the scheme are being worked out.

MEETING OF NAGA LEADER PHIZO WITH LALDenga, THE MIZO LEADER

672. SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been invited to a report appearing in the "Statesman" dated the 17th September, 1971, to the effect that the Naga rebel leader Phizo and the extremist Mizo National Front leader Laldenga have met somewhere in East Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/ विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government have seen Press reports to this effect. However, Government have no information to corroborate the report.

(b) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF STEEL

673. KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT:

SHRI MAHITOSH PURAKAYASTHA:

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of steel to be imported during the current year;

(b) the foreign exchange required for such imports; and

(c) the steps taken for the progressive reduction of steel imports?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) and (b) No precise estimates have been made regarding the quantity of steel to be imported during 1971-72. Data are, however, available regarding the value of import/licences issued for import of iron and steel items during 1970-71 and 1971-72 (upto October 1971), as given below.—

	Value {Rs. crores}
1970-71 ..	199
1971-72 ..	192
(Upto Oct. '71)	

NOTE.—1. Figures for 1971-72 (upto Oct. '71) are provisional since returns from some licensing authorities have not yet been received.