

(in million tonnes)

Year	Production	
	Ingot steel	Saleable steel
1969-70	3.781	2.785
1970-71	3.612	2.645

(b) Within the limitations imposed by the industrial relations situation, particularly at Durgapur Steel Plant, the Management of Hindustan Steel Limited are making all possible efforts to raise production to rated capacity levels as rapidly as possible. These include speeding up of major capital programmes required in order to correct critical imbalances in production facilities, organisation of maintenance programmes aimed at enhancement of equipment availability, procurement of essential spares, refractories, locos and other raw materials, introduction of technological improvements etc. A close watch is being kept on the rate of production and the performance of each of the Plants.

#### RESERVE OF NON-FERROUS METALS

299. SHRI M. K. MOHTA:  
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD  
MATHUR:  
SHRI SUNDAR MANI  
PATEL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that recent surveys have located large reserves of non-ferrous metals like lead, zinc and copper in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the areas where such deposits have been discovered and the estimated potentiality thereof; and

(c) the extent to which self-sufficiency in these metals is likely to be achieved as a result of these discoveries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN):  
(a) and (b) As a result of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India, sizeable reserves of copper at Rakha, Roam Siddheswar; Tamapahar, Turamdih. Ramchandra Pahar in Singhbhum belt, Bihar; Khetri, Kolihan, Madankudan, Akwali Satkui, Baghoni in Khetri copper belt, Rajasthan, Dukonda, Nallakonda, Bandalamottu in Agnigundala lead-copper belt in Andhra Pradesh; and lead-zinc in Zawar mines, Rajasthan, Ambamata lead-zinc-copper belt, Gujarat; and lead at sargipalli in Orissa have been located. In addition some promising copper prospects have also been located at Kalyadi in Mysore, Malanjkhanda in Madhya Pradesh, Pular Parsori in Maharashtra, Mailaram in Andhra Pradesh, Purdariba in Rajasthan.

The total estimated reserves of the deposits are of the order of 200 million tonnes of copper ore; 100 million tonnes of lead-zinc ore and 15 million tonnes of lead ore.

(c) The demand estimated by the end of the Fourth Year Plan is of the order of 124,000 tonnes for copper, 142,000 tonnes for zinc and 97,400 tonnes for lead.

The present production capacity of copper is 9,600 tonnes per annum which is likely to be expanded to 16,500 tonnes by the end of the current year. Besides this, on commissioning of the Khetri copper complex, production capacity is estimated to be further expanded by 31,000 tonnes by 1974-75.

The present production capacity of zinc is 38,000 tonnes per annum of which 20,000 tonnes is based on imported concentrates and 18,000 tonnes on indigenous ore deposits. The production capacity is expected to be doubled by the end of the Fourth Plan. Another Zinc Smelter with a capacity of 30,000 tonnes per annum is also proposed to be set up at Vizag. With the doubling of the existing two smelters, the new smelter at Vizag and development of the other proved deposits it may be possible to attain near self-sufficiency in respect of zinc metal by the end of the 5th Five Year Plan or so.

The present installed capacity for lead is 5,400 tonnes per annum. The question of modernisation of the only lead smelter at Tundoo (Bihar) is presently under examination. Studies for the development of the other deposits of lead are being taken in hand.

#### REDUCTION IN THE PROCUREMENT PRICES OF RABI CROPS

300. SHRI M.K. MOHTA:  
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD  
MATHUR:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:  
SHRI J.P. YADAV:  
SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA  
SHRI K.C. PANDA:  
SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Prices Commission has recently recommended a reduction in the procurement prices of Rabi Crops during the current rabi season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have agreed to the above recommendations

and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The Government fixed the procurement price of indigenous red wheat between Rs. 71.00 and Rs. 74.00 and that for all other varieties at Rs. 76.00 per quintal.

It was decided not to reduce the prices as this would have adversely affected procurement and farmers' incentive to increase production.

#### STATEMENT

Procurement prices of wheat recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission for 1971-72 and those fixed for 1970-71 marketing season.

(Rs. per quintal)

Variety	1970-71	
	As fixed by the State Governments	Recommended for 1971-72
Indigenous (Red)	70 to 74	68
Mexican	76	74
Indigenous (Common White)	76	74

#### SUGAR MILLS

301. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills to be set up in the cooperative sector in each State during the year 1971-72; and