

ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b) The following table indicates the works cost of production of steel ingots (excluding depreciation and interest) in the steel plants under Hindustan Steel Ltd. as well as at TISCO and HSCO during the year 1969-70 :—

		(Rs. tonne)
Plant		1969-70
TISCO	..	348.00
HISCO	..	374.00
Rourkela		
O.H.		387.02
L.D.	..	333.39
Bhilai	..	315.83*
Durgapur	..	344.28*

As a matter of commercial practice, the steel plants do not disclose the cost of production of various items of iron and steel.

**PRODUCTION OF CAPACITY CERTIFICATES
BY SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIAL UNITS
BEFORE BOOKING INDENTS**

276. SHRI K. SUNDRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector steel producers, such as Hindustan Steel Ltd., insist on the production of photostat copies of capacity certificates before booking indents from Small Scale Industrial units;

(b) whether Government would now direct the D.G.T.D. (Development Wing) to issue to each of those S.S.I. Units, a certificate of production capacity as assessed by them either voluntarily or on application from such units; and

(c) whether Government would assure that there would be discrimination in raw material allocation between the units transferred and those retained by the D.G.T.D. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) According to the present policy all indentors (including small industrial units) requiring steel for genuine purposes can place indents on steel plants through the Joint Plant Committee. Small Scale Units are required to sub-

mit a certificate from the concerned State Directorate of Industries certifying that the indentor is a genuine consumer of the category indented for.

(b) So far as the small scale units are concerned such certificates will be issued by the State Directorate of Industries (and not by the D.G.T.D.)

(c) Under the new distribution policy announced by the Ministry of Steel & Heavy Engineering, the system of making allocations has been done away with. All indentors requiring steel for genuine purposes (including small scale units and D.G.T.D. transferred units) are now free to place their indents for steel through the Joint Plant Committee.

**LOSS SUFFERED BY RAILWAYS DUE
TO NAXALITE ACTIVITIES**

277. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the extent of loss suffered by Railways on account of the Naxalite activities in the country during the last one year;

(b) whether the Railway traffic to and from Howrah remained stand-still continuously in the recent past; and

(c) to what extent the Central Reserve Police assisted the Railway administration to prevent loss to the railway property and to check violence within the railway premises ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) Cost of damage to railway property due to direct activities of Naxalites has been estimated at Rs. 5,159 approximately (from 21-8-1969 to 20-8-1970).

(b) No.

(c) On several occasions the Central Reserve Police assisted the Railways to prevent loss to Railway property and to check violence within Railway premises.

LOANS RECEIVED BY SMALL INDUSTRIES

278. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1507 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st August, 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the representation received from the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., for being treated as an 'approved source under the Income Tax Act in regard to the loans provided by it with a view to promote small scale industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) and (b) The matter is still under consideration.

DISPLAY OF FILM POSTERS AT RAILWAY PLATFORMS

279. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the criteria followed by the Railway administration regarding the display of film posters at various places at the Railway platforms?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : Film posters—are accepted for display at Railway stations subject to the condition that the contents are not obscene or objectionable. All posters are scrutinised before acceptance for display.

PRODUCTION OF WAGONS FOR RAILWAYS

280. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of wagons during the last two years has been much below the capacity of wagon builders in India; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) The actual production of wagons by the Wagon Builders during the last two years has been much less than their licensed capacity.

(b) Low production, has been mainly attributed to labour troubles in the manufacturers' Works such as strikes, 'go-slow' tactics, lockouts, etc. and occasional shortage of matching steel and wheelsets.

BAN ON FORWARD TRADING IN COMMODITIES

281. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) when the forward trading in commodities was banned; and

(b) the provisions under which it was done and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) Statements showing the commodities in which forward trading as well as trading in nontransferable specific delivery contracts have been banned upto 1967 and during 1968 and 1969 are attached. [See Appendix LXX : V Annexure No. 15].

(b) Forward trading except trading in non-transferable specific delivery contracts in specific commodities is banned by applying Section 17 of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. Trading in non-transferable specific delivery contracts in specific commodities is banned under Section 18 of the Act whenever considered necessary.

The main reasons for which forward trading in commodities has been prohibited are as follows :—

1. The existence of comprehensive price and distribution control as in the case of food grains, sugar etc.

2. Shortage of supplies and high prices as for example in mustard seed, groundnut oilcakes etc.

3. As a measure to prevent trading in certain banned commodities under the cover of free or permitted commodities as for example the use of mustard oil cake as a cover of mustard seeds.

Non-transferable specific delivery contracts have been prohibited on account of actual or likely misuse of these contracts for speculative purposes.

SHIFTING OF BUSINESS HOUSES FROM CALCUTTA

282. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :