

(c) Periodical co-ordination meetings between Police, Railway Protection Force and Railway Officials are regularly held at all levels for securing better co-ordination between these agencies.

TECHNICAL AID FOR RAILWAY LINES IN IRAQ

333. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 38 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 1970 and state :

(a) whether the Government of India have taken a decision on the grant of technical aid to the Government of Iraq for the laying of railway lines in Iraq; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) and (b). Based on the discussions held in January, 1970 with the Iraq Government delegation, supervisory and field teams consisting of Indian Railway Experts visited Iraq and carried out a facility-cost study of a 404 Kms. long railway line from Baghdad to Hsaibah in that country. The study report has been presented recently to the Iraq Government. India's further participation in the execution of the project on mutually agreeable terms, will be considered when the reaction of the Iraqi Government to the Study Report becomes available.

IRON ORE AND COAL CARRIED BY RAILWAYS FOR STEEL PLANTS

334. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of iron ore and coal carried by the South Eastern Railway to the various steel plants located in eastern region during the months of July, August and September, 1970 respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quantum of iron ore and coal carried by railways in August, 1970 was less than that in the previous month; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA, : (a)

Month	Total loading in million tonnes from S.E. Railway to Steel Plants in Eastern Region	
	Iron Ore	Coal
July, 1970	0.862	0.577
August, 1970	0.935	0.664
Sept., 1970	0.908	0.605

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

STRIKE IN PUBLIC SECTOR STEEL PLANTS

335. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of strikes that took place during the last 2 years in each of the public sector steel plants and the period for which it lasted in each case; and

(b) what is the total loss in terms of production as well as the man-hours as a result thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

12 NOON

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED ENCIRCLING OF MEKHLIGUNJ IN COOCH-BEHAR, WEST BENGAL, BY THE PAKISTAN RIFLES

SHRI M. K. MOHTA (Rajasthan) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the reported encircling of Mekhlighunj in the District of Cooch-Behar, West Bengal, by the Pakistan Rifles.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL IN THE CABINET SECRETARIAT (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 31st October, 1970, objections were raised by the personnel of the