

(b) Durgapur Projects Ltd. will supply coke oven gas about 4000 nm³ hr. and coke at the rate of 400 tonnes per day during 1971-72 and at the rate of 300 tonnes per day during 1972-73.

(c) No such proposal has been received.

SUPPLY OF BILLETS TO THE ROLLING MILLS IN INDIA

812. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :
SHRI KANCHI KALYANA-SUNDARAM :

SHRI T. K. SRINIVASAN :

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

(a) whether Government have changed their policy in regard to the supply of billets to the Rolling Mills in India; if so, what is the change in the policy; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the closing of Units and retrenchment in the Rolling Mills in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) It has been the practice to review the distribution policy of billets from time to time, taking into account new factors and changed circumstances. Such a review was recently completed and the new policy communicated to the Joint Plant Committee. The main changes between the billet distribution policy as it was immediately before the announcement of the current policy and the current policy is that the quota for export of bars and rods has been reduced while special allocations have been made for the production of twisted deformed bars and other difficult sections.

(b) and (c) As the present production of billets is not sufficient to meet even one shift capacity of Registered re-rollers, it has not been possible to meet the full requirements of the Re-rolling Mills, including those of Tamil Nadu. Efforts are being made to step up production and despatches from steel plants. Government has no information !

about retrenchment in, or closing of, any unit in Tamil Nadu for want of billets.

SUPPLY OF RAILWAY WAGONS TO M.M.T.C.

813. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway wagons indented by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation for the months of January, February, March and April, 1970 for the transportation of iron ore to Dhanmandal and Nargundi for export through Paradeep Port from Barbil and Banspani sectors (Banspani, Deo-jhar, Balani, Barjamada etc.) in the Orissa, Bihar region;

(b) the number of wagons supplied to them during each of these months;

(c) whether there has been any short supply in this regard; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps that are being taken to meet the demand in full?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) The number of indents registered in the months of January to April, 1970 were as follows :—

January '70	.	.	.	7,518
February '70	.	.	.	8,472
March '70	.	.	.	6,398
April '70	.	.	.	4,677

(b) The number of wagons supplied against the above indents were as follows :

January '70	.	.	.	6,668
February '70	.	.	.	6,767
March '70	.	.	.	6,136
April '70	.	.	.	2,125

(c) Indents by M.M.T.C. are registered in bulk. As rakes are loaded at a number of points, indents are registered at all the points to provide flexibility in supply of wagons at any point. The target for movement of ore from Barjamada area to Paradeep is 1.2 million tonnes for the export year July, 1969 to June, 1970, and against a *prorata* target of 0.3 million tonnes during the first quarter of 1970, the movement during January, February and March 1970 was 4,36,627 tonnes which was