

(b) what are the reasons for making small allocations to small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b) The information, is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

DELAY IN MOVEMENT OF RAILWAY WAGONS

359. SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that it took twenty-one months for a goods wagon despatched from Rourkela to reach Falna in Rajasthan and if so, the reasons for such delay;

(b) whether it is also fact that it took seven months for a goods wagon despatched from Bhilai to reach Falna in Rajasthan and if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve this unsatisfactory state of affairs?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No. However, one consignment loaded from Rourkela to Falna on 28-7-66 reached destination on 22-5-67 due to its having been mis-despatched to Patna and the consignment remaining unconnected till 21-4-67. The delivery of this consignment could be effected only on 24-4-68 as the same was earlier refused by the party on the ground that he had already filed a suit for the same and the matter was *sub judice*.

(b) No, but a consignment of M. S. Rods despatched from the Bhilai Steel Plant to Falna on 21-5-68 was received at Falna only during the 1st week of January 1969, as the wagon containing these consignments was mis-despatched to Jalna instead of Falna where the consignment remained unconnected during the period.

(c) Apart from keeping a watch on the transit time, steps are taken by the Railways to trace missing consignments by issuing telegrams and letters to the booking station*, junctions and contiguous Railways concern-

ed. Claim Tracers and Inspectors are also deputed for the purpose as and when necessary.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES SUSPENDED FOR PARTICIPATING IN STRIKE

360. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of the railway employees who were suspended for participating in the strike in September, 1968 have been reviewed;

(b) if so, how many of them have since been absorbed in service; and

(c) what is Government's attitude towards the rest of the suspended employees?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Yes, such a review was required in respect of those employees who were under suspension following their arrest and they were to be put back to duty if their participation was limited to mere absence from duty on 19-9-68.

(b) 352 such employees have so far been put back to duty.

(c) More cases are under review as prosecution gets completed and such of the employees as are found to be guilty only of absence on 19-9-68 will be taken back to duty.

INVESTIGATIONS AGAINST INDUS IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

361. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have now completed the investigations into the allegations against the Indian Iron and Steel Company; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the investigations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRITDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) The matter is still under examination.

(b) Does not arise.