

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) There are eight Central Government factories in the public sector located in Kerala State. Their names are indicated below:

1. Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Alwaye.
2. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., Alwaye.
3. Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Kalamassery. (Machine Tool Factory—IV).
4. Instrumentation Ltd., Palghat.
5. Indian Rare Earths Ltd., Alwaye. (Monazite Factory).
6. Hindustan Latex Ltd., Trivandrum.
7. Cochin Refineries Ltd., Ernakulam.
8. Modern Bakeries (India) Private Ltd., Ernakulam.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SUPPLY OF RAILWAY EQUIPMENT BY STEEL PLANTS

644. SHRI M. D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether our steel plants have not been able to meet the requirements of Railway fully with regard to Railway equipment indented by them;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to meet the requirement of the Railways fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) to (c) The main items of Railways' requirements produced in the Steel Plants in the country are rails, crossing sleepers, pressed steel sleepers, fish plates, wheels and axles in addition to various types of bars and structurals items, plates, pig iron, billets and blooms. Railways' requirements for rails, crossing sleepers, fish plates, pig iron, billets, blooms, bars and structurals are being fully met. Requirements for plates are also being met to the extent possible on a priority basis. However, in view of demands of other priority consumers it has not been possible to meet the Railways' requirement of plates fully so far.

The position in regard to availability of plates is expected to improve after the expansion of the Rourkela Steel Plant is completed early next year. As regards wheels and axles, the full requirements were not being met. This is partly due to the fact that while Durgapur Steel Plant is equipped to supply 60 per cent in 20-Tonne Roller-bearing type wheel sets and 40 per cent in 16-Tonne plain bearing type for optimum utilisation, the Railways' requirements now do not conform to this pattern. The Wheel and Axle plant at Durgapur is also having other operational problems such as inadequacy of wheel quality steel, machining capacity, etc. The supply of wheel quality steel is being augmented by converting the 100-tonne furnace to 120-tonne capacity and steps are in hand to instal a 40-tonne electric furnace. Additional balancing equipment like a centreless grinding machine, an axle roughing lathe and wheel rectification lathes have been ordered. Two British experts have also arrived in Durgapur to study the problems connected with improving the quality of steel.

ASSISTANCE TO SEED CRUSHERS ASSOCIATION

645. SHRI S. D. UPADHYAYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any proposal from the M. P. State Industries Corporation Ltd., seeking their assistance in advising the All India Seed Crushers Association to issue necessary certificate for F.O.B. value of cotton seed extraction on the basis of the foreign analysis report or on the basis of satisfactory report of the foreign buyers; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

PAPER AND PULP INDUSTRY IN BASTAR

646. SHRI S. D. UPADHYAYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present position in regard to the establishment of paper and pulp industry in Bastar?