

**SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:** Is the transport difficulty the only reason why there is shortage of coal or is it the lack of stocks of coal?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** Transport difficulty is the main difficulty. Another difficulty is the disruption of lines because of natural havocs.

**SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** May I know, Sir, if the Millowners' Federation, Ahmedabad, did not complain that certain mills did not have the supply of coal for even two days?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** It did happen because some of the mills did not take care to have ten days' stock with them; they ran it out.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES AT BHILAI

\*668. **SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soviet specialists, designers, engineers and architects have found out the possibility of mass construction of houses in the steel town of Bhilai; and

(b) if so, what are the special features of this scheme?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA):** (a) The report of the Team has not yet been received.

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH:** May I know, Sir, whether there was discussion between the Bhilai Plant officers and the expert from Russia about this, and whether our officers have given some information to the Government?

**SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA:** Some officers of our C.P.W.D. and the N.B.O. were associated with this Russian team. It is proposed that a team of our engineers would be going to Russia to study the projects on the spot there.

#### SHORTAGE OF FORMS IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES

\*669. **DR. A. N. BOSE:** Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of various forms in Government offices; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA):** (a) and (b) There is a general shortage of Government forms mainly due to shortage of paper in the country.

**DR. A. N. BOSE:** Is anything being done to meet this shortage of forms?

**SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA:** Recently Government have allowed importation of 8,800 tons of paper from outside.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Government have said that forms are short because there is no paper. But at the same time we find newsprint selling in Calcutta in the blackmarket. May I know, Sir, whether Government has given any instruction to local authorities to tap some from these sources for supply of necessary forms?

**SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:** As far as the two questions are concerned, they are not related at all. It is a fact that there is some scarcity. Therefore, we are taking steps to increase production as well as allow import.

\*670. [The questioner (Shri P. L. Kureel urf Talib) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3560-61 infra.]

#### INDO-BRITISH TALKS FOR SUPPLY OF ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES BY THE HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD.

\*671. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of experts of a British Electrical concern is currently negotiating with the