

Nationalisation of iron ore or Kyanite mines

2708. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to nationalise Iron Ore or Kyanite mines ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to nationalise the iron ore or Kyanite mines, except for certain kyanite mines in Bihar, the management of which was taken over on the 10th March, 1972, because of these being a part of the undertaking of M/S. Indian Copper Corporation Limited.

Overstocking of M. S. Rods and Angles Iron at Gobindgarh Re-Rolling Mills in Punjab

2709. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a lot of converted M. S. Ingots into M. S. Rods and Angles Iron, are lying with Re-Rollers for want of permits issued by Government at Gobindgarh Re-Rolling Mills in Punjab, for months together ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action Government propose to take against those officers responsible for over-stocking and delay in distribution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to reported delay in the disposal of re-rolled products produced by Re-rolling Mills at Mandi Gobindgarh out of billets allotted to them by the Billet Re-rollers' Committee. Allocation of billets to the Registered Billet Re-rollers, including the mills at Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab, as well as distribution of the re-rolled products produced by them, are regulated by the Billet Re-rollers Committee on a quarterly basis. The Committee have issued distribution lists for all the

quarters upto January-March, 1972 covering the entire supplies of billets scheduled in favour of all the billet Re-rolling Mills of Mandi-Gobindgarh. The Committee are not aware of any stocks of finished products, uncovered by release orders, lying with these Re-rollers.

Houses built for Labourers Working in Steel Plants

2710. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the houses built for labourers working at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur Steel Plants of Hindustan Steel Limited are under wrongful occupation of contractors who have finished their contracts jobs at these three Steel Plants on the plea of payment of their final bills ;

(b) whether these three Steel Plants are under any obligation to provide accommodation to contractors or their supervisory staff or their labour, as per terms of the contracts ;

(c) if so, the number of Bungalows and labour quarters of each of the three Steel Plants which are under wrongful occupation or encroachment and their rent ; and

(d) the action Government propose to take for eviction and to compensate the loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (d). In the Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants, some of the contracts entered into with contractors contain a stipulation regarding provision of accommodation to the supervisory staff and or workers of the contractor either to a specified extent or subject to availability. In the Rourkela Steel Plant, five quarters are under wrongful occupation of the contractors on the plea of non-payment of their final bills. In the Durgapur Steel Plant, a house allotted to a contractor is under the wrongful occupation of an employee of the contractor who has since left his service. Apart from with holding final payments under the contracts, legal steps are also being taken for eviction. There are 16 other houses under the occupation of contractors whose terms of contract and work are over. These houses