

ever, the academic staff of the Institute has been representing that the University Grants Commission scales of pay may be introduced in their case also. This was considered by a group consisting of representatives of the Director General of Health Services, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi and the University Grants Commission. This group recommended that before the University Grants Commission scales of pay could be introduced, it would be desirable if the University of Delhi could consider designating the posts of Assistant Director, Senior Research Officer and Junior Research Officers of the Institute as Professors, Readers and Lecturers according to its rules. The decision of the Delhi University in respect of 5 posts only has been received so far and their decision in respect of the remaining posts is awaited.

#### Reports of Joint Working Groups

726. SHRI C.R. MAHATA:  
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:  
SHRI M.N. GOVINDAN NAIR:  
SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRIS-  
NAN.  
SHRI YASWANT BOROLE:  
SHRI O. V. ALGESAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Joint working groups constituted recently to study the various aspects of steel industry and its expansion have submitted their report; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the actions taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Summaries of the Reports of the Study Group are given in Annexures I to VI. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1077/77.] The Reports are

presently under examination in Steel Authority of India Limited and in Government.

#### Aluminium Project at Ratnagiri

727. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra on the 10th October, 1977 that the Central Government has practically dropped or intend to drop the aluminium project at Ratnagiri;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that a serious misunderstanding has been caused in the minds of the people in Maharashtra over the statement made by the Chief Minister;

(d) whether there is any truth or substance in the said statement made by the Chief Minister; and

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to clarify the matter and inform the Chief Minister of Maharashtra accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). There is no intention to abandon the Ratnagiri Aluminium Project.

#### विदेश मंत्री की विदेश यात्रा

728. श्री एम० ए० हनान अलहाज : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन्होंने 1977 में कितन-कितन देशों की यात्रा की ; और