

(b) whether the medical attention of these mentally ill persons receive in Tihar Jail is considered adequate by Government; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to restrict the time period for detention in the jail of those mentally ill persons who are not convicts or prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: (a) As on 30th November, 1978, forty mentally ill persons are detained in Tihar Jail. Their names and date of admission have been indicated in the list laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3000/78]

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Mental Health Bill, 1978 as reported by the Joint Committee of Parliament contains provisions for periodical inspection of mentally ill persons, and their discharge under certain conditions like recommendations of Medical Officer, on request, on the undertaking of relatives and friends etc.

#### Chromite Mining in Orissa

2639. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of chromite ore extracted from the mines in Orissa during 1976—78;

(b) the manner in which the ore was utilised;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up an industrial unit in Public Sector so as to make best use of the locally available chromite ore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) The relevant figures are given below:—

| Year                        | Production<br>(in<br>tonnes) | Value<br>(Rs. in<br>lakhs) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1976 . . .                  | 3,89,229                     | 1936                       |
| 1977 . . .                  | 3,18,533                     | 1665                       |
| 1978<br>(January—September) | 1,76,552                     | 943                        |

(b) The chromite ore extracted from the mines in Orissa was utilised for meeting export demand and internal requirements of ferro-chrome, refractory and chemical industries.

(c) and (d). A proposal for setting up a ferro chrome/charge chrome plant for utilisation of the ore fines is at present under consideration.

#### Meetings of Consultative Committees

2640. SHRI UGRASEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Consultative Committee meetings attached to various Ministries held during the preceding inter-session period of Parliament; and

(b) the venue and dates of these meetings?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) 23 meetings of the Consultative Committees attached to Ministries were held during the inter-session period September-November, 1978.

(b) Statement is enclosed.