

coking coal and power that production is hampered in ingot iron and steel production; and

(b) if so, what is the quantity of less-production and the value thereof in the year 1977-78 and 1978-79?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The total production of ingot steel and saleable steel from the integrated steel plants in 1977-78 was 8 424 million tonnes and 6 894 million tonnes respectively. This fell short of the production in 1976-77 by 4,000 tonnes and 28,000 tonnes respectively.

The total production in 1978-79 was 8,153 million tonnes of ingots and 6,592 million tonnes of saleable steel. This fell short of the production in 1977-78 by 2,71,000 tonnes in terms of ingots and 3,02,000 tonnes in terms of saleable steel.

The production of steel in 1977-78 and 1978-79 was adversely affected by a number of factors. The main factors were: problems relating to supplies of coking coal, both in terms of quantity and quality; shortage and frequent restrictions/fluctuations in power supply; indifferent industrial relations in some of the plants; unprecedented rains and floods in West Bengal in September, 1978, resulting in flooding of coal-fields as well as Durgapur Steel Plant; and affecting the rail movement and critical position of some raw materials at some of the plants in 1978 caused by movement bottlenecks.

Import of Aluminium

10826. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are likely to import double the quantity of aluminium during the current year as compared to preceding year; and

(b) if so, the quantity of aluminium imported last year, the quantity to be imported during this year and its value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Aluminium metal to the extent of 33,000 tonnes was imported during the year 1978-79 and a quantity of 75,000 tonnes is proposed to be imported during the year 1979-80. The value of imports will depend on the international market price. It is roughly estimated to be in the region of Rs. 90 crores.

Plan to open a Doordarshan Kendra at Tripura

10827. SHRI SACHINDRALAL SINGHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to open Doordarshan Kendra (studios and mother stations) at Tripura, between Firozabad and Bendar and between Allahabad and Etawah if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) when this plan will be chalked out;

(c) what are the difficulties in opening new stations of Doordarshan in a quick way, give detailed reasons; and

(d) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir. However, it is proposed to set up a TV Relay centre at Varanasi in U.P. and one at Ajmer in Rajasthan during the Sixth Plan period.

(b) to (d). Constraints on financial resources and low priority accorded to expansion of TV in the country are limiting factors in the setting up of new TV stations.