

Number of Mandays lost during 1981 and January, 1982

465. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT:

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mandays lost due to strike and lockouts in the country during 1981 and up to 31st January, 1982; and

(b) what steps have been taken to meet the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) According to information available so far, 25.50 million mandays were lost due to strikes and lockouts during the year 1981. Information for January, 1982 is not yet available.

(b) Government is keeping a constant watch on the industrial relations situation in the country. Industrial Relations Machinery both at the Centre and the States continue to make efforts to reduce the work-stoppages and loss of mandays through mediation preventive conciliation, adjudication and arbitration as necessary under the existing statutory provisions and voluntary arrangements.

Inadequate power supply to mini Steel Plants

466. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mini-steel plants which faired reasonably well in 1980-81, are again faced with hosts of problems like inadequate power supply and raising cost of raw materials;

(b) whether Government have received reports that these units will

have to wait their turn in spite of their claim for an increase in power supply;

(c) whether this has resulted under-utilisation of capacity in many of the several units; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to see that these mini steel plants are out of the danger of closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c) It has come to the notice of the Government that in some States, mini-steel plants are facing shortage of power. No specific representation has, however, been received regarding rise in cost of raw materials. Despite this, overall capacity utilisation has increased from 69 per cent in April--November 1980 to 73 per cent in April--November, 1981. There may however, be under utilisation of capacity of some units due to inadequate availability of power. However, no reports have been received that the units will have to wait their turn for increased power supply.

(d) In order to improve the working of these units, the Department of Steel has taken up the matter of supply of adequate power to these mini steel plants with the State Governments. Further, liberal policy has been adopted to provide import of ferrous melting scrap and sponge iron to meet the raw material requirements of these units.

Personal Staff attached with Ministries:

467. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number and particulars of Special Assistants, Private Secretaries, Personal Assistants and other personal staff together with their salary scales attached with all the Ministers in the Centre including Cabinet Ministers,