

MR. SPEAKER : The question hour is over.

I would request the hon. Members that they should be brief, direct and precise when they ask questions. If they do not add interruptions, preambles and all that, we can cover more questions. In future, I am not going to tolerate it. If the Member insists on introductions, preambles and all that, I will not allow it. We are running short of so many questions everyday. The Members whose questions are at the end very much wish that their questions come up in time. We will try to make progress in future.

SHRI PILOO MODY : We do not want so many questions.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. I think, if it continues like that, we will come to that.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Revised cost estimates of Bokaro Steel Plant

*548. SHRI FATEHSINGH RAO
GAEKWAD :
MAHARAJA MARTAND
SINGH :

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

(a) whether the revised cost estimates of the Bokaro Steel Plant show a staggering increase over original estimates ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the extent to which the inflated cost is attributable to dependence on foreign consultants ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) According to the revised estimates prepared by the Bokaro Management, the increase is of the order of about Rs. 88 crores over the original estimates of Rs. 670 crores for the 1st stage of the Bokaro Steel Project.

(b) The main reasons for increase are the higher cost of indigenous equipment about Rs. 60 crores, increase in the price

of steel about Rs. 11 crores and escalation in wages about Rs. 9.5 crores. No. part of this increase is attributable to the foreign consultants.

Break-through in Rice Production

*550. SHRI N. SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating measures for a major break-through in rice production in the ensuing year ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides bringing larger areas under high-yielding varieties and multiple cropping, the other steps taken to increase the production of rice include (i) intensive development of irrigation, particularly groundwater resources ; (ii) adequate and timely supply of inputs like seeds, fertilisers and credit ; (iii) emphasis on adequate and balanced use of fertilisers and better water management ; (iv) surveillance of pests and diseases and well organised plant protection measures ; (v) effective and purposeful demonstrations on farmers' fields ; and (vi) farmers' training alongwith National Demonstration Programme. In addition, further efforts are being made to evolve high-yielding varieties of rice suitable for different agro-climatic conditions, resistant to pests and diseases and acceptable to consumers.

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय भ्रम संगठन सम्मेलन में
भारत के प्रतिनिधि मण्डल
द्वारा भाग लेना

*552. श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह शिष्ट : क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत ने 7 जून, 1971 को जनेवा में 56वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय भ्रम संगठन में