

Reducing cost of production of Steel

*238 SHRI P S RAMALINGAM
Will the Minister of STEEL AND
MINES be pleased to state

(a) the efforts made to reduce costs of production of steel in the public sector units, and

(b) the concrete results achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) (a) and (b) Significant cost reductions have been achieved through measures like increase in production and productivity better capacity utilisation research and development programmes reduction in use of costly input materials maintaining better control over wastages and shortages of raw materials etc The impact of cost reduction measures has however, been completely neutralised by the escalations in cost of input materials over which steel plants have little control. A further concerted drive towards this end is being launched through the incorporation of certain technological innovations over the next few years.

Imparting of education to rural workers

*239 SHRI C R MAHATA Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Board of Workers Education have under its consideration certain proposals to impart education to the rural workers and

(b) if so the details of the proposals and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR RAM KIRPAL SINHA) (a) and (b) The Board has worked out a Scheme for education of rural workers which has been approved by Government

The broad purpose of the Scheme is to promote among rural workers a critical awareness of the problems of their socio economic environment and their rights and obligations as workers, as members of the village community and as citizens and to help them to assume an effective and responsible role in solving their problems. Under this Scheme, pilot projects at 7 Regional Centres of the Board are to be conducted in 1977-78. These projects would cover landless labourers agricultural workers rural artisans, forest and fisheries labour marginal peasants educated unemployed in rural areas and tribal labour. The topics to be covered will amongst other things have a bearing on

(i) Peasants Movement and Rural Workers Organisations

(ii) Rural Development and Transformation,

(iii) Social and Legislative Measures including land Reforms

(iv) Co-operative Education, and

(v) Population Education and Family Welfare

Detection of cancer cases by 'Pap Test'

*240 SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether 60 and 65 per cent cancer cases can be detected sufficiently early by using the 'Pap Test',

(b) whether Government propose to develop a countrywide net-work of cancer detection centres and

(c) if so, the outlines of the steps proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN) (a) Cancers of oral cavity including oropharynx and larynx followed by oesophagus and lung in males and cancer of the uterine cervix followed by breast and oesophagus are the most commonly encountered cancers in