

(b) whether the quantity of pig iron issued to the contractors was much in excess of what was agreed to;

(c) whether this job was carried out by the contractors in a period spread over 7 years;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Railways neither recovered the excess pig iron nor they realised any damages from the firm;

(e) if so, whether any investigation has been conducted in this respect; and

(f) if so, the result thereof and the total loss suffered by the Railways on this deal?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The firm had been issued 870 tons of pig iron in excess, but on payment of its full cost, as the cost of the pig iron against the contract was to be borne by the firm.

(c) No, Sir. It was completed in a period of less than two years from the time the contract was awarded.

(d) No, Sir. This excess was adjusted against a subsequent order placed in 1961 by issuing correspondingly less pig iron against that order.

(e) and (f). Special investigations were instituted by the Railway when the excess issue came to its notice. This excess was adjusted against a subsequent order by issuing correspondingly less pig iron against that order. Pig iron continued to be a controlled commodity in 1961 also and there was no difference in controlled price between 1957 and 1961.

#### Mining of Tungsten in Rajasthan

\*267. Shri Deven Sen: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tungsten is being mined by the Government

of Rajasthan/or a Company controlled by that Government for the past few years;

(b) if so, the rates at which the output was sold to private parties from time to time;

(c) whether this was ever sold to the Central Government or their Defence Establishments;

(d) if so, the quantity and rates thereof; and

(e) the reasons for the difference in prices charged from private parties and the prices charged from Government?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Tungsten is mined by the Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Rajasthan.

(b) The selling rates per tonne were Rs. 9,000 during 9th August, 1963 to 26th August, 1965, Rs. 13,500 during 27th August, 1965 to 20th May, 1966, Rs. 17,200 during 21st May, 1966 to 26th February, 1967 and Rs. 24,000 from 27th February, 1967 onwards.

(c) and (d). During the period 27th August, 1965 to 20th May, 1966, 6.25 tonnes were sold to Central Government Departments at Rs. 13,500 per tonne.

(e) There is no difference in the selling price of tungsten concentrates to private parties and Government Departments, during the same period of time.

#### Demand and Production of Aluminium

\*268. Shri Nihal Singh:  
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand for aluminium during the next 4 years and the production targets fixed for it;