

Import of Cast Iron Scrap

854. SHRI BALVANT MANVAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations for putting cast iron scrap under O.G.L. list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Suggestions have been received for allowing import of cast iron scrap under Open General Licences on the ground that use of cast iron scrap in place of pig iron in the manufacture of castings would result in saving of foreign exchange.

(c) Import of cast iron scrap is already permissible up full value of freely transferable REP licences and against flexibility available on Additional Licences. As regards import under O.G.L. the matter is under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Steel.

Construction of Cottages and Restaurants in Kumoun Hills

855. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct cottages and restaurants in Kumoun hills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c). The Department of Tourism have prioritised two wayside amenities at Mukteshwar and Ramgarh in the Kumaun region in consultation with the State Government for the year 1990-91. Detailed proposals with estimates have, however, not been received from the State Government.

Development of Open Cast Mining Technology at H.Z.L., Udaipur

856. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur has entered into a technical collaboration with an Australian Company for the development of open cast mining in their Rampura-Agucha Mines;

(b) if so, the reason thereof; and

(c) the numbers multinational companies which quoted for this project and the reasons for selecting the Australian technology?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Determination of Bank Interest Rates

857. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure followed in the determination of bank interest rates (lending and deposit);

(b) whether these are fixed unilaterally by Government and communicated to the banks for execution or these are fixed by the