

Singareni Collieries

- *116. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Reghunath Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between the Central Government and the Government of Andhra Pradesh over the control of the affairs of Singareni Collieries Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The future pattern of assistance by the Government of India to the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and the extent of the Centre's interest in the direction of its affairs, as a consequence thereof, are presently under consideration in consultation with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Artificial Rain

- *117. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Mohammad Elias:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments have been and are being conducted on the artificial precipitation of rain from clouds;

(b) if so, the nature and technique of such experiments; and

(c) the degree of success, if any, achieved so far?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hygroscopic (water absorbing) particles are dispersed in clouds from seed generators on the ground or in aircraft. A proportion of the seeds thus dispersed help formation of a few relatively large cloud droplets which

grow rapidly by collision and coalescence with average small cloud droplets and help initiate rain formation more readily than would occur otherwise.

(c) Out of 54 units of seeding trials conducted by the Rain and Cloud Physics Research Unit 32 were positive, 11 negative and 11 inconclusive

Prices of Coal

- *118. { **Shri Jashvant Mehta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri S. B. Das:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal industry have represented to Government to review the issue of price increase for coal in the light of the report of Indian Coalfields Committee of 1946 popularly known as Mahindra Committee; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Steel Factory in Andhra

- *119. { **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:**
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Steel and Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have represented for starting of a medium-sized steel factory in Public Sector in view of availability of large deposits of iron ore; and