

Iron Ore Reduction Plant in Goa

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- *469. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri Ravindra Varma:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the ESSO Ltd., has offered to set up an iron ore reduction plant in Goa;

(b) if so, the terms of the offer, and Government's decision thereon; and

(c) the broad outlines of the project?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal is under consideration.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether it is a fact that the condition to purchase crude oil from the ESSOs in return for the setting up of the plant at Goa will undergo a change or it may even be cancelled, if their offer for collaboration in the Madras refinery is accepted?

Shri P. C. Sethi: All these details are yet to be settled, and the matter is in a very initial condition.

Shri P. C. Borooah: What will be the foreign exchange earnings per year through the export of the end-products of this plant?

Shri P. C. Sethi: It is said that the foreign exchange earning would be about \$ 30 millions.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: How are the ESSOs qualified, especially, to set up an iron ore reducing plant in Goa?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member could say that better.

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): It is a new process which has been experimented,

and with naphtha, they think that they can process this ore and export it. It is a new process and they think that they can put it up. But it is tied up with the import of crude; and since they need naphtha, naturally, we cannot take a decision ourselves, and the Oil Ministry is closely connected with it.

Shri Shinkre: The Deputy Minister has just now said that the proposal is under consideration. May I know whether Government are considering this proposal with the ESSO Ltd. on one side and the Government of India on the other, or whether they are also considering this proposal on the basis of ESSO Ltd. on one side and some private individual or private company on the other?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: As I said earlier, the establishment of this is dependent on the import of crude oil, because naphtha is necessary for the process. Negotiations are proceeding with the Ministry dealing with oil.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Shinkre: My question has not been fully answered. The Minister is willing to reply.

Mr. Speaker: Some other time.

Transfer of Industrial Licences

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- *470. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases involving the transfer of industrial licences before taking any steps for the establishment of units for which these licences had been granted, came to Government's notice during 1963-64 and 1964-65 so far;

(b) if so, how many; and

(c) the amount in all paid for the mere transfer of licences?