

Shri Karni Singhji:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Himatsingka:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
 Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
 Shri Tan Singh:
 Shri Mohammad Elias:
 Shri R. Barua:
 Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:

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

(a) whether Government have held further negotiations with the representatives of foreign firms who have offered to collaborate in the production of small cars in the country;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed with any firm; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far in that connection?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) Government are still awaiting detailed proposals from the interested parties. The stage for holding negotiations has not yet come.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Khetri Copper Mines

Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Warrior:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri Prabhat Kar:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shri R. S. Pandey:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

*267. } Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 } Shri Subodh Hansda:
 } Shri S. C. Samanta:
 } Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 } Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:
 } Shri Ravindra Varma:
 } Shri Karni Singhji:
 } Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:
 } Shri Naval Prabhakar:
 } Shri Himatsingka:

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

(a) whether an agreement has been reached with the French Consortium for collaboration in the Khetri Copper mines project in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether a firm of Finnish experts had prepared a Project Report; and

(d) if so, whether the French consortium is expected to work generally on the basis of the Finnish Report?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Yes Sir, an agreement for financial and technical assistance for developing Khetri Copper mines has been signed with a group of French Companies including Messrs. Venot and Messrs. ENSA Company, France by National Mineral Development Corporation.

(b) A statement giving the details is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The salient features of the agreement are:—

(i) The French Group will act as

Engineer Experts and advisers in respect of the Khetri Copper Project.

- (ii) The French Group will provide the necessary plant and machinery to equip the mine and to process the ore and furnish designs, drawings specifications of the mine, concentrator, smelter (except Flash Process) and refinery and also layout of a sulphuric acid and fertilizer plant.
- (iii) The entire foreign exchange requirement of the project including design charges, cost of the equipment and charges for deputing foreign technical personnel to India, will be met by the French Group from out of the Consortium Credit.
- (iv) In case the bids of the French Group for at least 85 per cent of the imported equipment are accepted, the charges stipulated by the French Group (Rs. 7.28 lakhs) various items of work viz. for geological studies concerning the mine, preparation of tender specifications, evaluation of bids etc. will be waived.
- (v) In the event of the French bid not being accepted, it would be open to the Corporation to procure the equipment from any other country according to the design and specification prescribed by the French engineers.
- (vi) In designing the project maximum amount of plant and equipment of indigenous manufacture and available in India would be used.

(c) & (d). The project report was prepared by M/s Western Knap Engineering Company who are at present the consultants of NDMC. But in respect of the Flash smelting process which is being adopted, the World patent rights are held by the Finish Firm, M/s Outokumpu Helsinki. The

Corporation proposes to purchase the flash smelting process from the Finnish Credit. The French group will however remain responsible for the supervision, erection and co-ordination in respect of the plant as a whole.

New Mineral Projects

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 Shri R. S. Pandey:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Pottekkatt:
 Shri A. V. Raghavan:
 Shri Kappen:
 Shri Viswa Nath Pandey:
 Shri Kindar Lal:
 Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
 Shri Ravindra Varma:
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
 Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
 Maharajkumar Vijaya
 Ananda:
 Shri Bagri:
 Shri R. Barua:
 Shri Kanakasabai:
 Shri Mohammed Koya:

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

(a) whether Government have under consideration any scheme to start preliminary surveys to determine the feasibility of setting up mine mineral projects in the country to meet the requirements during the Fourth Plan period; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). A number of feasibility studies have been undertaken and a statement giving information regarding them is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4657/65].

Recovery of Rails from a Kanpur Firm

791. {
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a truck