

the people aware of the borrowing facilities given by the Tribal Panchayat Samitis?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Social Welfare (Shrinapati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Small Car Project

*433. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reconsidering the proposal for having a small car project; and

(b) what public statement, if any, has been made by the Minister on the subject since last Session?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) The question of settling up a project for the manufacture of small cars is still under consideration.

(b) No such public statement has been made.

Khetri Copper Mines

*484. **Shri Karni Singhji:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

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

(a) Whether in view of the great demand for copper products to meet defence requirements priority has been assigned to develop the Khetri Copper mines in collaboration with French companies headed by M/s. Venot and Co.

(b) the terms and conditions under which the development of these mines was accorded to these firms; and

(c) the present progress made in that direction?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Yes Sir. The project is already under execution and efforts are being made to expedite its completion.

(b) An agreement for financial and technical assistance for developing the Khetri copper mines has been signed with the group of French companies headed by M/s. Venot & Co. by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited.

A statement containing the salient terms and conditions of the agreement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5754/66].

(c) The statement giving the progress made so far in respect of this project is also laid on the Table of the House.

Railway Service Commission for Bihar

*485. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 928 on the 19th November, 1965 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to set up a separate Railway Commission for Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply given to part (a) be in the negative, the causes of delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) to (c). It has been decided to instruct the Railway Service Commissions of Allahabad and Calcutta to establish an office for the convenience of this populous region at a convenient place and to visit it some time every year for conducting oral as well as written tests.