

(b) whether any decision has since been taken to this effect ; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The Central Government and the State Government of Orissa have agreed to set up a corporation for the development of Sukhinda Nickel Deposits in District Cuttack, Orissa, with the former having 51% shares and latter having 49% shares in it. The Nickel extraction plant will have the capacity to produce 4800 tonnes of Nickel powder, 200 tonnes of cobalt powder and 17,000 tonnes of Ammonium Sulphate fertilizer as by-product per annum. Steps are being taken to undertake pilot scale tests before a detailed project report for the commercial exploitation of the deposit is drawn up.

There is a similar proposal for a joint venture between the Central Government and the State Government of Orissa regarding the lead deposits Sargipalli, Orissa. Before however a lead smelter based on these deposits is set up, it is necessary, that the detailed investigations of out by the the deposits which are being carried out by the Geological Survey of India are completed. This work is being attended to.

Setting up of Research and Development Board for Iron and Steel Industry

2736. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal which was under the consideration of Government, to set up a Research and Development Board for the Iron and Steel Industry has since been finalised ; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Malpractices of "Coal Cartel"

2737. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representatives of Electricity Boards of four Western State sought the Centre's intervention to end the malpractices of "Coal Cartel" which was boosting fuel prices ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes ; Sir. Western Regional Electricity Board have complained to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power regarding the tendency of some private collieries to increase coal price.

(b) The Central Water and Power Commission have called for the details of specific cases where the coal suppliers have resorted to such unhealthy practices. The matter will be considered on receipt of further details.

श्रमजीवी पत्रकारों के लिए वेतन आयोग प्रबन्ध में कर्मचारियों द्वारा भाग लेना

2738. श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मैमर्स बैनट कोलमेन कर्मचारी संघ के 15वें वार्षिक अधिवेशन के दौरान सरकार से यह मांग की गई है कि पत्रकारों और गैर-पत्रकारों के लिए एक नया वेतन आयोग बनाया जाये और समाचार पत्रों के सम्बन्ध में कर्मचारियों को भाग लेने दिया जाये ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री भार० के० खाडिलकार) (क) सम्मेलन में एक संकल्प द्वारा मजूरी बोर्ड के लिए और समवाद के प्रबन्ध में कर्मचारियों के भाग लेने की मांग को दोहराया गया ।