

**Foster Parent's Scheme to promote Girls Education**

1034. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national foster parents scheme on the pattern of Savitribai Phule foster parents scheme of Maharashtra is proposed to be implemented at the National level to encourage girls' education and give the public a sense of participation in a mass movement for the education of girls;

(b) if so, by what time the scheme is likely to be introduced at National level; and

(c) the main features of the scheme and to what extent the scheme would fulfil the social objective of educating girls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (c). Since school education is looked after primarily by the state governments, it is for them to initiate and implement such a scheme. The Government of India feels it is a good, innovative scheme for promoting girls' education. It has accordingly been commended to states in June, 1984 and March, 1988 for implementation.

**Liquid-gas based Sponge Iron Project of Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.**

1035. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to clear Rs. 240 crore imported liquid-gas based sponge iron project of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited and whether it is the third project in the country;

(b) now this project is different from the earlier projects;

(c) whether Kudremukh had opted for

imported liquid-gas-based project in the absence of natural gas near Mangalore; and

(d) if not, the other reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Government have not decided on the clearance of the proposal of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited for setting up a sponge iron project based on imported liquified natural gas. Two proposals for setting up sponge iron plants based on indigenous gas have been cleared.

(b) to (d). Unlike the other two proposals which are based on indigenous gas, KIOCL's proposal is based on use of imported liquified natural gas since natural gas is not available near Mangalore.

**Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited**

1036. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

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

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, which was once languishing for want of a market has turned the corner; and

(b) if so, the countries where market has been found and to what extent it has helped the company?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited has made good progress over the last few years but has not yet commenced making profits.

(b) During 1987-88 KIOCL exported nearly 4 million tonnes of iron ore concentrate and pellets to Japan, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, France, China, Hungary, Turkey, Australia and Indonesia. These exports have helped the Company in improving capacity utilisation of its plants and