

the Government of France on 28th January, 1980 for setting up of an alumina/aluminium plant in Orissa based on the East Coast bauxite deposits.

(b) The French Government will present a comprehensive financial package for the project in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, covering both off-shore purchases and local costs of the project including related infrastructure facilities.

(c) The terms and conditions will be decided after the details of the financial package have been received from the French Government.

Setting up of on-shore Steel plant at Paradeep, Orissa

1473. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a 3-million tonne on-shore steel plant at Paradeep in Orissa;

(b) is it correct that the proposed steel plant would be financed cent-per-cent by foreign credit; and

(c) if so, what is the name(s) of the country(ies) from whom credit facilities are being sought indicating the terms of repayment of the loan; whether the repayment of the loan will be in kind, that is, finished products or in terms of cash?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) As a part of the overall development programme for the augmentation of steel-making capacity in the country, Government have been considering the possibilities of setting up a new port-based steel plant with capacity of 3.0 million tonnes per annum. Paradeep is being considered as one of the possible sites.

(b) and (c). Offers of technical and financial assistance for this purpose have been received from parties in West Germany, U.K., etc. which are

in different stages of examination. These offers are based on financing packages comprising Export Credits, Euro-loans, Soft loans, Aid, etc. of varying amounts to meet within the plant-perimeter costs. Some of these offers also visualise buy-back arrangements for part of the finished products of the plant to facilitate debt servicing.

Export Promotion Plan

1474. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any export promotion plan has been drawn up;

(b) if so, the export-oriented industries likely to be covered by it;

(c) whether it envisages any role for MRTP companies and if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(d) what incentives are contemplated for the export-oriented industries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). Government are considering certain proposals with a view to encouraging and strengthening industrial units and industries which are export-oriented. These proposals are at present in a preliminary stage and it is not appropriate to give details.

Transfer of staff of Tea-Board and Coffee Board serving in Canteens

1475. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to transfer the staff of the Tea Board and Coffee Board serving in various canteens after every three years; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The staff