

- (iv) The Delhi-Muradnagar 220 kV link is being strengthened to enable drawal of power from Badarpur.

**Permission to terminate Agreement between the Aluminium Corporation of Birla and the U.P. Government**

296 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of U.P. have asked for Centre's permission to terminate the agreement entered into between the Aluminium Corporation of the Birlas and the Government of U.P.; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. As the supply of power to Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Limited is governed by the terms of an agreement entered into by the Corporation with the Uttar Pradesh Government, the question of the State Government asking Centre's permission to its termination does not arise.

**Amendment of Bonus Act**

297. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :  
SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Organization of Railwaymen have demanded amendment of Bonus Act to make Railway employees entitled to payment of Bonus;

(b) whether this matter has been taken up with the Labour Ministry; and

(c) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAL) : (a) Yes,

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Exploration of new markets abroad for Iron Ore**

298. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken initiatives recently to explore new markets abroad to trade our rich iron ore through M. M. T. C. ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Exploration of new markets for export of iron ore is a constant exercise. Long-term agreements for supply of a total quantity of about 24 lakh tonnes have been recently concluded in newly found markets in the Republic of South Korea and Taiwan.

**Expenditure incurred on Farakka Barrage Project**

299. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) total expenditure incurred till date on the Farakka Barrage Project in West Bengal ;

(b) whether his attention has been drawn to a White Paper recently circulated by the West Bengal Government on the Farakka Barrage Project urging the authorities concerned to take urgent measures to save the Calcutta Port ; and

(c) if so, the full text of the said White Paper and observations of the Central Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) An expenditure of Rs. 114.10 crores has been incurred on the Farakka Barrage Project upto the end of June, 1972.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.