

- (h) to study the requirements of research and Development for the iron ore sector as a whole;
- (i) to purchase, take on lease, or otherwise acquire any land or building wherever situate which may be necessary for the purposes of the Society;
- (j) to sell, lease, exchange and otherwise transfer all or any properties of the Society;
- (k) to invest the funds of or moneys entrusted to the Society in such securities and in such manner as may from time to time be determined by the Society;
- (l) for the purpose of the Society to draw, accept make endorse, discount and deposit, Government of India and other promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques or other negotiable instruments;
- (m) to promote equitable distribution of iron ore cargo for shipment from different ports in the interest of port economy and of employment;
- (n) to incur all lawful expenses as may be necessary from time to time for the employment of the staff required to discharge the duties incidental and conducive to the attainment of the aforesaid objectives,
- (o) to do all such other lawful things, including borrowing to meet temporary operating expenses as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives;
- (p) to employ or obtain services of experts or any other persons; and
- (q) to discharge such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Central Government.

Strike in Triveni Structural Limited

493. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a strike in the Triveni Structural Ltd., at Naini near Allahabad;

(b) the period for which the strike continued and the loss Government had to suffer due to the strike; and

(c) whether Government have received reports of intimidation of loyal workers, threat of assaults and interference with movement of goods in and out of the factory if so, the action taken by Government in this regard to end the strike?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strike continued for a period of 40 days with effect from 16th December, 1972. The loss in production suffered by the company on account of the strike was Rs. 20 lakhs approximately.

(c) The management received some reports of intimidation and threat of assault to loyal workers and interference in the movement of goods in and out of the factory. Requisite security measures were taken by the Management with the help of the District authorities for protecting the plant and the loyal workers.

Future of International Commission for supervision and control set up under Geneva Agreement

495. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

SHRI N. K. SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vietnam peace agreement signed recently at Paris has left the future of the International

Commission for Supervision and Control for Laos in uncertainty;

(b) whether Dr. Kissinger, President Nixon's Special Adviser, has stated that the International Control Commission for Laos will be shortly reinstated; and

(c) if so, whether Government have sought any clarification from the concerned parties in regard to the future of the Control Commission for Laos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH).

(a) The Vietnam peace agreement has nothing to do with the ICSC in Laos which continues to exist and function as before

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Both sides (RLG and NLHS) have expressed their support to the ICSC in its present form

U.N. Secretary General's Offer for Restoring Normalcy in Indian sub-continent

496. **SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.N. Secretary General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, has offered his good offices or made any suggestion in restoring normalcy in the Indian sub-continent

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

(a) The U.N. Secretary-General discussed the situation in the Indian sub-continent with us during his visit to New Delhi in February, 1973. Government's thinking in this regard was conveyed to him. India's determination to seek a settlement of all differences through direct talks among the parties on the basis of sovereign equality without outside interference was

reiterated. The Secretary-General appreciated the progress made so far in the implementation of the Simla Agreement. He also took note of our view that further progress would be facilitated by early recognition of Bangladesh by Pakistan.

(b) It would not be in the public interest to give details of the discussions and it is not customary to divulge the contents of confidential talks.

Mini Steel Plant in Gujarat

497 **SHRI VEKARIA:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a mini steel plant in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the name of the place?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA ANSARI): (a) and (b) The Gujarat State Industrial Investment Corporation have submitted a proposal to set up a scrap-based electric furnace unit in Bhavnagar for manufacture of steel billets. The proposal has been approved in principle, and is being recommended for grant of a letter of intent.

U.N. Economic Sanctions Imposed on Rhodesia

498 **SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.N. Economic sanctions against the white minority regime in Rhodesia have failed; and

(b) whether India would take any initiative in persuading the United Nations to take more effective steps to enforce sanctions against Rhodesia?