

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

**Setting up of Mini Steel Plant in Haryana**

1646. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Haryana have approached the Central Government with a proposal for setting up a Mini Steel Plant in that State in the Public Sector;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken on the proposal?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA):** (a) to (c). The Haryana State Industrial Development Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, have been issued a letter of Intent on 18th June, 1971, to set up an electric furnace-cum-continuous casting plant near Hissar for the manufacture of 50,000 tonnes of steel billets per annum.

**Lock-out in Kesoram Rayon Factory in West Bengal**

1647. **SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kesoram Rayon Factory in West Bengal has been locked-out for the last two months;

(b) if so, the reasons for the lock-out; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for the early lifting of lock-out?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY)** (a) to (c). The matter falls essentially in the State sphere. According to available information, the management had declared a lock-out on April 14, 1973 on account of alleged indiscipline by the workers.

**Assessment regarding profitability of expanding the Product-mix of Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant**

1648. **SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:**

**DR. RANEN SEN:**

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

(a) whether the Expert Committee set up by Government to assess the profitability of expanding the product-mix of Alloy Steel Plant at Durgapur has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA):** (a) and (b). No Committee was constituted for this purpose. A Group of experts of the Department which was asked to review the question of the product-mix has completed this review which is now under examination.

**Talks with USSR for Co-operation in designing and developing sophisticated Military equipment in India**

1649. **SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks have been held with Soviet Union for Soviet cooperation in the design and development of sophisticated military