

Government have set up a Committee recently consisting of officials and non-officials to make a study of the working of the voluntary price control scheme and suggest improvements. The copy of the order appointing the Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1896/68]. The Chairman of the Committee has been authorised to coopt a few more members as may be necessary.

#### Supply of Steel to Nepal

- \*144. { Shri Vishram Prasad:  
Shri R. G. Dubey:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal Government have recently made demand for supply of Steel; and

(b) if so, the quantity asked for and how far it will be met?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). Supplies of steel to Nepal are arranged under an export quota fixed annually. The quota for the year 1963-64 is 5,000 tonnes of which 40 per cent can be for sheets. The entire quantity will be met.

#### Use of Ilmenite for Production of Pig Iron

- \*145. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottekkatt:  
Shri Imbichibava:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 409 on the 30th August, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the suggestion to utilise ilmenite in Kerala for the production of pig iron has been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government were advised that production of pig iron from Kerala ilmenite sands, though technically feasible, was likely to be uneconomic.

#### Decontrol of Iron and Steel

- Shri Hem Barua:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri B. K. Das:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:  
Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Kappen:  
Shri Heda:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:  
\*146. { Shri N. R. Laskar;  
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:  
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri Daji:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri Hem Raj:  
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:  
Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
Shri P. Venktasubbaiah:  
Shri Mohan Swarup:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Morarka:  
Shri Ravindra Varma:  
Shri Umanath:  
Shri Kajrolkar:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Raj Committee and the Producers' Committee have submitted their reports;

(b) if so, whether they have recommended the de-control of iron and steel; and

(c) Government's reaction to the recommendations?