

Shri R. S. Pandey;
 Shri Ravindra Varma;
 Shri Rajeshwar Patel;
 Shri Ulkey;
 Shri A. S. Saigal;
 Shri R. S. Tiwary;
 Shri Chandak;
 Shri Dhuleshwar Meena;
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka;
 Shri Wadiwa;
 Shri A. K. Gopalan;
 Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath;
 Shri J. B. S. Bhat;
 Shri J. P. Jyotishi;
 Shri Matcharaju;
 Shri Lakshmi Bhawani;

Shri Narasimha Reddy;
 Shri M. Rampure;

Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to expand the Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant with the Japanese collaboration during the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the collaboration?

Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have finally decided to locate the fifth steel plant at Vishakhapatnam, the sixth steel plant at Hospet in Mysore State and the Alloy Steel Plant at Salem in Madras State;

(b) if so, when the work is likely to start on these projects; and

(c) the details of the expenditure estimated along with the foreign exchange involved in each case?

The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh): (a) No, Sir. The matter is still under consideration.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Expansion of Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant

906. Shri Hem Raj;
 Shri Daljit Singh;
 Shri P. C. Borooah;
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi;
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad;
 Shri S. C. Samanta;
 Shri Subodh Hansda;
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam;
 Shri Hukam Chand
 Kachhavaia;
 Shri Bibhu Mishra;
 Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya;
 Shri Linga Reddy;
 Shri Kajrolkar;
 Shri P. K. Deo;
 Shri P. H. Bheel;

Price of Coal

907. Shri Bagri;
 Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia;
 Shri Yashpal Singh;
 Shri Balmiki;
 Shri Kishen Pattanayak;
 Shri Ram Sewak Yadav;
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa;
 Shri Himatsingka;
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia;
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
 Shri K. N. Tiwary;
 Shri Narayan Reddy;
 Dr. P. N. Khan;
 Shri Subodh Hansda;
 Shri P. C. Borooah;
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi;
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad;
 Shri S. C. Samanta;
 Shri Madhu Limaye;
 Shri Hukam Chand
 Kachhavaia;
 Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya;
 Shri Daji;
 Shri R. S. Pandey;
 Shri Rajeshwar Patel;
 Shri Ravindra Varma;
 Dr. Ranen Sen;
 Shri Dinan Bhattacharya;

Shri Basumatari;
Shri Indrajit Gupta;

Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the Coal Industry to increase the prices of coal;

(b) the reasons for asking the increase in coal prices; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) and (b). Price increases were requested by the industry to enable it to pay bonus under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and to compensate the industry for the revision of royalty rate in the case of pre-1949 mining leases.

(c) Government have granted a suitable price increase for the industry from 24-12-1965 to enable it to pay bonus pending a cost examination of representative collieries which is under way. In the context of revision of royalty rate, a price increase has been given from 3rd February, 1966.

Railway Line in Desert Area of Jaisalmer

908. **Shri Onkar Lal Berwa;**
Shri Madhu Limaye;
Shri Kishen Pattnayak;
Shri Bagri;
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia;
Shri M. I. Dwivedi;
Shri P. C. Borooah;
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad;
Shri Subodh Hansda;
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavalya;
Shri Shinkre;
Shri Yashpal Singh;
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey;
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav;

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for a Railway line in the

desert area of Jaisalmer in Rajasthan has been finalised;

(b) if so, the mileage of the rail track; and

(c) when the work on the project is likely to be taken in hand and the total expenditure to be incurred thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) to (c). It has been decided to undertake the construction of a 105 KMs long Metre Gauge line from Pokaran to Jaisalmer in the 1966-67 Works Programme. The line is estimated to cost Rs. 3 crores and is expected to be completed in 15 months from the commencement of construction.

Export of Pepper

909. **Shri Bagri;**
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia;
Shri Yashpal Singh;
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey;
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka;
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena;

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received various suggestions for increasing the export of pepper; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to these suggestions and the annual estimate of the export of pepper?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations and the action taken on them by Government have been set out in the Government Resolution No. 3/12/65-EP (Agri) on Black Pepper published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary of 1st January, 1966. Copies of the Resolution have been placed on the Table of the House on 24-2-1966. The export in 1965-66 is estimated at about 23,500 tonnes valued at Rs. 10 crores approximately.