Shri Narayan Reddy:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:
Shri Shiva Dutt Upadhayaya:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaiya:
Shri Bade:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Rajeshwar Patel:
Shri Ravindra Varma:
Shri Uikey:
Shri A. S. Saigal:
Shri R. S. Tiwary:
Shri Chandak:
Shri J. P. Jyotishi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a pig iron plant is likely to be set up at Katni in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether this plant will be set up at the cost of the Centre or the State;

(c) what kind of assistance the centre is likely to give; and

(d) what will be the total output of the plant?

The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh): (a) to (d). An application has been received from Director of Industries, Madhya Pradesh for the grant of an Industrial Licence for the manufacture of 300,000 tonnes pig iron per annum. This is under the consideration of the Government. The State Government is yet to submit the detailed project report on the scheme giving *inter alia* the proposed location of the plant, the process of manufacture, the details regarding financial and technical collaboration etc.

Trade Pact with USSR

928. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Narayan Reddy:
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Balmiki:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Dr. P. N. Khan:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Ravindra Varma:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Rajeshwar Patel:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:
Shri Laxmi Dass:
Shri Linga Reddy:
Shri Bagri:
Shri Kindar Lal:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Tula Ram:
Shri R. Barua:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri Lahtan Chaudhry:

Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a trade agreement between India and U.S.S.R. was signed in January, 1966; and

(b) if so, the main features of this agreement?

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

A New Five Year Trade Agreement between India and U.S.S.R. which aims at doubling the existing trade volume between the two countries by 1970 was signed at New Delhi, on January 7, 1966 by Mr. N. S. Patolichev, Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of his country and Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister of Commerce on behalf of India. Simultaneously, letters were exchanged on the same day extending the validity of the Trade Agreement of 1963 upto the end of 1970 and detailed lists of goods for exports to U.S.S.R. during years 1966-70 and lists of imports therefrom during the same years were finalised and agreed upon. A Protocol on the Soviet delivery of machinery & equipments during this period on long-term credit basis was also signed by the two Ministers.

The following are the main features of the documents signed:

(i) the total volume of trade between the two countries which stood at Rs. 500 crores during the 1961-65 (Rs. 250 crores worth of exports to U.S.S.R. and Rs. 250 crores worth of imports therefrom) is expected to reach the figure of Rs. 1300 crores during five years 1966-70 (Rs. 650 crores each way).

(ii) the volume of trade between the two countries which stood at Rs. 75 crores each way in 1964 will reach the level of Rs. 150 crores each way by 1970. During the intervening period the volume of trade each way is expected to rise steadily to approximately Rs. 110 crores in 1966, Rs. 120 crores in 1967, Rs. 130 crores in 1968 and Rs. 140 crores in 1969.

In keeping with the principles accepted by the U.S.S.R. at the UN conference on Trade and Development, the recent Agreement also provides for a progressive increase in share of purchase of manufactured goods in our exports to that country. By 1970, it is estimated that such share will account for 40 per cent of our total exports to U.S.S.R. Among the products in which the Soviet side has shown interest are: electric lamps, refrigerators, electric fans, machine tools, automobile batteries, room air conditioners, vacuum flasks, linoleum and PVC cloth, pigments, paints and varnishes, steel and wooden furniture, palstic products, woollen, cotton and silk fabrics, garments, woollen and cotton knitwear, shoes, finished leather, machinemade woollen carpets, besides traditional items such as, tea, coffee, spices, de-oiled cakes, raw wool, jute manufactures etc.

On the other hand, the Soviet side has agreed to supply machinery & equipments on long-term credits. U.S.S.R. will also supply under this Agreement, spares & components needed for matintaining the production programme of various projects set up in India with the Soviet assistance. In addition supplies of essential raw materials needed by Indian industries will be stepped up. These are: ferro-alloys, special steel, tin plates, non-ferrous metals, sulphur, wood pulp, asbestos fibre, besides oil-products, fertilizers like ammonium sulphate, muriate of potash, newsprint etc.

Surplus Coal in Assam

927. Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is surplus coal in Assam;

(b) whether 75 per cent of the quota of coal for sale has been given to one Company;

(c) if so, whether Government realise its baneful effect on all other coal mines; and

(d) whether the other coal mine owners have represented to Government for increase of their quotas and if so, whether Government have considered their representations?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The allocations to various collieries in Assam are finalised only after full consultations with all the interests affected. One company was given 72 per cent of the quota of coal for sale, even though its production constituted 80 per cent of the total production.

(d) Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration in consultation with the coal producers in Assam and the State Government.