- (b) the steps being taken to implement its recommendations; and
- (c) whether this involves any financial implications and, if so, what extent?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The recommendations of Das Committee for boosting exports are being considered by Government and a decision will be taken as soon as possible.

(c) The financial implications in the implementation of the recommendations of the Das Committee would be about Rs. 10 crores—loans and grants during the 4th Plan period.

Khetri Copper Project

2929. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Shri Subodh Hansda: Shri S. C. Samanta: Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Dr. M. M. Das: Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

- (a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation, which is in charge of the Khetri Copper Project in Rajasthan, will also be in-charge of setting up a fertilizer factory attached to the Khetri Copper Project;
- (b) if so, the name of the agency entrusted with the preparation of the project;
- (c) whether there is any likelihood of starting the fertilizer factory along with the Copper Project to utilise its by-products; and
- (d) if not, how long it will take to complete the fertilizer factory?

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

(b) Negotiated are being held with Fertilizer Corporation of India for entrusting the designing, engineering and installation of the Fertilizer Plant to them.

- (c) The Fertilizer Plant is also expected to be commissioned by the end of 1969 alongwith the main Copper
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Export of Minerals

2931. Shri D. C. Sharma: Shri Maheswar Naik:

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

- (a) whether it is proposed to double the mineral exports by the end of the Fourth Plan period to place them in the third place as foreign exchange earner;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to increase the production; and
- (c) how long the available mineral resources will last at the present rate of exploitation both for internal consumption and export purposes?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri 8, K. Dey): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Various steps have been taken by the Government, from time to time, to step up production and increase the exports of minerals, such as provision of new Railway lines, improvement in transport facilities by road, extension of facilities at the Ports, canalisation of exports of iron ore and manganese ore through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd., etc.
- (c) In the case of important minerals like iron ore, manganese ore, mica, etc., the country has sufficient reserves to meet the both internal and external demands.

फिडाप्लेटों का हटाया जाना

2932 श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : श्री बड़े :

श्री विश्वाम प्रमाद :

क्या रेलबे मंत्री 5 ग्रगस्त. 1966 के