

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4627

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2005

AGREEMENT BETWEEN NALCO AND NMDC

Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Saroj Shri Tufani;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) have signed any agreement in regard to share Nickel Technology Probing Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NALCO and NMDC have proposal to set up any plant for the production of Nickel;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said plant is being set up; and

(e) the details of the progress for completion of the Gallium Production Project and Joint Research Project of NALCO?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) have signed an agreement on 29th November, 2005 to share and collaborate in exploiting the nickel extraction technology developed at Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): NALCO is collaborating with M/s Tyazhpromexport (TPE), Russia with regard to Gallium production project. The two sides are in touch with each other for working out the logistical arrangement for testing of spent liquor in laboratory of M/s TPE. NALCO is also in touch with M/s NLM/JFEST, Japan for liquor evaluation test with ion exchange resin technology.

Regarding Joint Research Project, an agreement was signed between Moscow Institute of Steel and Alloy (MISA)/ Romelt - Sail India Ltd. and NALCO for extraction of iron from Red Mud of NALCO's Alumina Refinery. Based on the studies, a Techno-Economic Feasibility Report was submitted by MISA/ Romelt - Sail India Ltd. to NALCO. After detailed study of the report, the project was not found to be economically viable.