

scale industries, and (vii) formation of a separate committee for the purposes of studying the subject of pollution control vis-a-vis the SSL sector.

3. Instructions have been issued regulating the visits of Excise Inspectors to once a year, with due permission. Taxpayers Assistance units have been set up at various levels. Certain procedural relaxations have been given to SSI units, (i) in the submission of price list of excisable goods, (ii) in the demarcation of areas within the factory premises, (iii) by way of summary assessment of monthly returns in the case of small scale units whose turnover does not exceed Rs. 50 lakhs and (iv) consideration of private production records in lieu of statutory registers. The exemption limit has been extended to small scale units having a turnover upto Rs. 15 lakhs and upto 30 lakhs in the case of units manufacturing more than one article falling under different tariff headings.

4. The Government has introduced in the Lok Sabha "The Labour Laws (Exemption from Furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by Certain Establishments) Bill, 1987" to provide for exemption to employers in relation to establishments employing a small number of persons from furnishing returns and maintaining registers under certain "labour laws". The Bill is before the Parliament.

5. The Reserve Bank of India have issued detailed guidelines to the Banking and financial institutions to provide for better coordination between Commercial Banks and the State Financial Corporations in the provision of financial assistance to small scale industries. The Government has commended to the Banking institutions that visit by bank officials to SSI units may be by prior appointment and at higher levels with due authorisation.

6. A committee was set up under the Chairmanship of President of FASII to look into the problems of filling of several forms before a small scale industrial unit actually goes into production and also simplification

of forms required to be filled in and records to be maintained by an entrepreneur after going into production, and to suggest measures to reduce their number/devise a common form to meet the requirements of concerned agencies. The report of this committee is awaited.

7. A separate committee to review the forms used for provisional/permanent SSI registration has also been set up. The forms suggested by the Committee have been examined and suitable modifications are under consideration prior to acceptance for adoption.

#### **Dispute Between Coal India Ltd. and Government of Bihar Over Coal Royalty**

\*265. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is dispute between the Coal India Ltd., Dhanbad and the Government of Bihar over the issue of coal royalty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Dhanbad has taken up with State Government certain issues relating to assessment of royalty. The State authorities are insisting that royalty should be paid by the company on the basis of declared grades ignoring slippages in grades actually occurring. The other issue is regarding the demand for royalty on book stocks written off as a result of physical verification.

(c) The details of the above issues have been furnished by the Company to the concerned authorities of the State Government and are also being followed up regularly at the appropriate level for settlement.

#### **Mini Power Plants with Foreign Assistance in Karnataka**

\* 266. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: