

कम और संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (क० राम कृपाल सिंह) :
(क) जगह की कमी लगभग 2500 वर्ग फुट की है। भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारी और जगह किराये पर लेने के लिए कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

(ख) इस क्षेत्र में कार्यालय की जगह के कारण बिलम्ब होने की कोई भी शिकायत सरकार के ध्यान में नहीं आई है।

Reopening of Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd.

*336. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of re-opening of the Aluminium Corporation of India Limited Asansol;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay in taking decision in this matter; and

(d) whether Government are considering to take over the concern in public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):
(a) to (d). The Government have decided in principle to take over the management of Aluminium Corporation of India, Asansol but to confine its activities to the fabrication facilities only. Necessary further steps directed towards this and are being taken.

Kashmir

*338. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sheikh Abdullah has demanded a say in the

talks, whenever held, with Pakistan on the settlement of Kashmir Issue; and

(b) if so, his reactions to such a demand?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE): (a) and (b). The Government have taken note of a statement made by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, at a press conference in New Delhi in which he had said that the people of Kashmir "will sink or swim with India; they have thrown their lot with India." and that their point of view must be represented whenever Kashmir is discussed. The above statement was made in the context of my visit to Pakistan which took place later. Subsequently, Sheikh Abdullah reportedly clarified that he never meant that the people of Jammu and Kashmir should be "the third party" in talks on this subject.

Relations with China

*339. PROF. P. G MAVALANKAR:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he said at a public meeting or at a press conference recently that if invited officially he would gladly visit the People's Republic of China;

(b) if so, when and where; and whether there have been any significant moves in that direction from the Government in Peking;

(c) whether Government propose to send a semi-official and/or a parliamentary delegation to China during the year, 1978:

(d) if so, the broad indication thereto; and

(e) if not, why not?