

red the dispute to arbitration as per the provisions of the contract.

(c) M/s. Catalysts and Chemicals Inc., Louisville, U.S.A.

(d) and (e). The problem of locating a proper substitute catalyst has been more or less solved but full rated capacity cannot be attained as there are basic deficiencies in the reformer capacity in the plant itself. A catalyst developed by the P&D Division of the Fertiliser Corporation is also expected to meet the requirements on the basis of the results obtained in the pilot plant tests. Further, a scheme for installation of an additional furnace to produce the supplementary gas equivalent to an additional quantity of 40 tonne methanol per day to meet the deficit, is under consideration. It is expected to take about three years to instal and commission the reformer unit.

Production of Iron Ore in Dausa Mines in Rajasthan

*591. SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annual production of iron ore in Dausa Mines in Rajasthan is decreasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of pig iron taken out from the ore;

(d) the steps being taken to increase the production; and

(e) the extent to which the production is meeting the demand of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) and (b). Presumably the reference is to Nimla Iron Ore Mine near Dausa Railway Station. This Mine is on lease with a private party who is not working it for the last three years, as it is reported that there is no

market for this ore due to heavy transportation charges on account of the long rail lead from the mine to the Port as also the comparatively low grade of ore.

(c) Presumably the Hon'ble Member desires to know the Iron Ore content of the ore. This was reported to be between 60% and 64% when the Nimla Mines were being worked.

(d) In the absence of market for this ore, the question of taking steps to increase production does not arise.

(e) The question does not arise as the Mine is not in production.

Strike in Antibiotics Plant at Virbhadra (Rishikesh)

*592. SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that armed police attacked the striking workers of the Antibiotics Plant at Virbhadra (Rishikesh); and

(b) if so, whether the plant has since been closed down due to these disturbances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) The Police had to use force to bring under control the situation created by the striking workers who had turned violent.

(b) No, Sir.

हिमालय क्षेत्र में गंगा नदी पर बाँध

593. श्री महाराज सिंह भारती: क्या सिन्धु तथा विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमालय क्षेत्र में गंगा नदी तथा उसकी सहायक नदियों पर कितने बाँधों का निर्माण किया जायेगा जिनका कि सर्वेक्षण किया जा चुका है ; और