

provided through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited at 486 District Courts and 1272 Taluka Court complexes. In addition, internet connections have also been provided at the home offices of 10744 Judicial Officers. For development of Software Application, the base version of the application has been decided and is now being tested in 8 locations. For site preparation, estimates have been received for approx. 2200 court complexes. An amount of Rs. 38.64 crore has been transferred to States. 499 District Courts complexes have so far reported site preparation work as completed across various High Courts. A grant of Rs.212.95 crore has been provided to NIC for the implementation of the scheme till 31.03.2009.

(d) The above scheme is being implemented in close co-operation with the State Governments and the High Courts including of Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Royalty on Iron-ore**

2497.SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R. C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would link the royalty rates levied on extraction of iron-ore to its prevailing market price;

(b) if so, the reasons and the details in this regard;

(c) what would be the royalty rates and whether these rates have been considered by some high-powered group; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQU): (a) to (d) The proposal for revision of rates of royalty is under consideration of the Government.

#### **State of NALCO**

2498.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit of NALCO has gone down;

(b) the net profit of NALCO from 2004 to 2008, year-wise;

(c) what is the total investment in NALCO for modernization and whether it is a fact that the cost of modernization has increased because of delay in work; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there has not been a regular Chairman of NALCO for the last 10 years and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQU): (a) and (b) Year-wise details of net profit of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) for the years from 2004-2008 are given below: