

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme is being drawn up to operate extensive coking coal mines in Ramgarh and Kedla areas; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the action being taken by Government in this regard?]

इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री केशव देव मालवीय) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) रामगढ़ में प्रतिवर्ष 35 लाख टन कोककर कोयले के उत्पादन हेतु एक 'ओपन कास्ट' खान के विकास तथा उसके कोयले की धुलाई के लिए रूस की सहायता से एक प्रक्षालनशाला स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है। जहाँ तक केडला एरिया का संबंध है, कोयला खान प्राधिकरण का केन्द्रीय खान आयोजन व डिजाइन संस्थान प्रतिवर्ष 20 लाख टन कोककर कोयले के उत्पादन हेतु इस इलाके के विकास के लिए एक योजना बना रहा है।

t[THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to develop an open cast mine in Ramgarh for a production of 3.5 million tonnes of coking coal and also to set up a washery to deal with this input with Soviet assistance. So far as Kedla area is concerned, the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute of Coal Mines Authority Limited is preparing scheme to develop this area for the production of 2 million tonnes of coking coal per annum.]

Stock Pile of Manganese Ore

•133. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Manganese Ore (India) Ltd., is contemplating to retrench six thousand labourers due to non-disposal of manganese ore stock piled in Madhya Pradesh; and

t[] English translation.

(b) if so, what proposals the Central Government have for the utilisation of these stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) In view of accumulation of stocks, failure of ferro-manganese producers to lift contracted quantities of ore as well as refusal to pay a fair price for the same and consequent Cash Deficits, Magnanese Ore (India) Limited had asked for Government's permission to close some mines and to retrench about 6,000 workers. Government has refused to give permission either to close the mines or to retrench workers.

(b) Ferro-manganese producers are being asked to lift adequate quantities of ore regularly as well as to pay a price which will enable MOIL to operate without loss.

Steel Plant at Bailadila

•134. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:

SHRI NATHI SINGH:

SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:

SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR:

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

(a) whether Government propose to open a Steel Plant in Bailadila which is situated in one of the most backward tribal districts of the country;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) In connection with the studies to be undertaken for the long-term steel development programme, the Steel Authority of India Limited have commissioned Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited for preparing a Feasibility Report for a steel plant in the Bailadila region of Madhya Pradesh.

Due to the severe constraint on resources, such Feasibility Studies can be made use of only while considering proposals I for the future Five Year Plans.