

Commission to help in restoring peace in the Republic; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The I.C.S.C. is only a supervisory body and not a peace-keeping force. As such it can be reactivated only when all parties to the conflict come to an agreement on ceasefire and make a formal approach to that effect.

SETTING UP OF NEW STEEL PLANTS

788. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to set up some new steel plants in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States where these plants will be set up; and

(c) whether efforts have also been made for seeking foreign collaboration therefor; and if so, the names of these countries as also the arrangements for investment of capital in these Steel Plants?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Except for the three new steel plants being set up at Salem in Tamilnadu, at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and at Vijayanagar near Hospet in Mysore State, Govt. have not taken any decision to set up new steel plants.

In connection with the long-term steel development programme preliminary techno-economic studies for some potential sites are, however, proposed to be taken up by the Steel Authority of India Limited.

(c) There are no proposals at present for foreign collaboration for the aforesaid three new steel projects. The question of importing some of the plant and equipment as also obtaining technical know-how for the manufacture of some sophisticated products would be considered at the appropriate stage.

LOCATION OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES IN STATES

789. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where in heavy industries have so far been located; and

(b) the details of heavy industries proposed to be located in those States under the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mysore, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are the States where public sector units under the purview of this Ministry are located.

(b) As location of projects is decided on techno-economic considerations, details of location can become available only after the proposals regarding the setting up of new projects get finalised.

JOINT COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND KUWAIT.

790. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT: SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF:

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Kuwait have agreed to set up an inter-Governmental Joint Committee for economic and technical cooperation between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the broad features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Joint Committee will meet at high official level at least once a year in India and Kuwait alternately. The date of the first meeting of the Joint Committee, the composition of the two delegations in the Committee and the agenda are still under discussion with the Government of Kuwait through diplomatic channels.