

installed. It is proposed to refer the matter to a Committee set up by Government on 24-6-1970 to advise Government on all aspects of the installation of statues of freedom fighters in Delhi. On receipt of the recommendation of the Committee, the matter will be processed further.

REPORT OF STUDY TEAM ON IRON ORE

511. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 203 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th May, 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government have received the comments of the National Mineral Development Corporation on the report of the study team which visited certain iron ore producing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government to these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI NITI RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A statement giving the required information, is attached.

STATEMENT

Important recommendations of the Study Team on Iron Ore	Action taken in pursuance thereof
1. More technical officers should be sent abroad to study the latest mining, transportation and loading techniques and operations in foreign countries, particularly in Canada and Brazil to acquire experience and exchange of information.	1. The National Mineral Development Corporation has already sent 2 mining Engineers to Brazil for 6 months for study of the working of the mines, railways and ports there.
2. Setting up of a well equipped Research and Development Laboratory.	2. A Research Laboratory has already been set up by the NMDC at Faridabad which is being equipped. This will be developed as a full fledged Laboratory for beneficiation and treatment of iron ore with pilot plant facilities.
3. Mining, loading, transportation and shipment to be under one centralised management for achieving optimum efficiency in the iron ore export programme as prevailing in Brazil.	3. In so far as India is concerned the mining organisations are responsible for the production of ore, the Railways for transportation where it is carried by Rail and the port for loading into ships; these are under different authorities and the exports are canalised through the Minerals & Metals Trading Corpn. However, these activities are coordinated by a high-level Committee.
4. The detailed prospecting and exploration should be taken by the exploiting Agency, G.S.I. being left free to concentrate on basic geological works.	4. The matter was considered and it is intended to set up a separate self-contained Unit within the G.S.I. for carrying out detailed mineral exploration work. The unit would enjoy maximum autonomy possible and would be assisted by a high level Technical Committee. The detailed investigations would be carried out by the Unit at the instance of exploiting agencies interested in the exploitation of the deposits.

Important recommendations of the Study Team on Iron Ore	Action taken in pursuance thereof
5. Modernising the mining operations and development of modern deep sea ports with bulk handling facilities.	5. The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited are modernising their mines by use of large capacity dumpers etc. The Vizag Outer Harbour construction has also been taken up with this object in view.
6. Unit trains with a capacity of about 12,000 tonnes of ore should be introduced as early as possible for transport of ore from mine to port.	6. The Railways are already conducting studies for increasing iron ore trains between Bailadila and Vizag section.
7. Adoption of drilling and blasting techniques as applied in countries like Brazil, in India so that blasting of ore for a whole week could be done on a single day.	7. This will depend on the availability of the right type of drills and explosives in the country. However, a beginning has been made in the experimentation of slurry explosives which are being developed by the indigenous manufacturers.
8. Development of iron ore deposits which are individually very large but which occur within the same area, should be taken up on an integrated basis and common facilities such as Township, Railways Yard, Hospital, School, Recreation facilities etc., should be provided. By doing so economies of scale can be derived as in Brazil and Canada.	8. This recommendation is being kept in view while planning the development of new mining projects.
9. Mining operations in India should keep in mind flexible processing arrangements so as to produce various types of ores to meet the varying demand of buyers, as is being done in Brazil which has ore deposits similar to India's.	9. This is being kept in view by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited both in operating mines and the mines under development.
10. Optimum use of machine and equipment by efficient maintenance by trained personnel, well planned maintenance schedules and adequate maintenance facilities.	10. The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited has appointed a Consultant to plan this.
11. Delegation of authority both at mine and plant for carrying out their duties and responsibilities.	11. The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited is taking steps to do the needful.
12. Use of instrumentation and remote control operations for the overall efficiency for the complex wherever possible.	12. This is being attended to, to the extent possible and desirable.
13. Improvement in conditions of living and service and providing educational, social education and welfare amenities.	13. The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, has been devoting much attention to these aspects inspite of financial difficulties.
14. Study depth for improvement of management-labour relations and taking suitable steps in creating job satisfaction and motivation among employees.	14. An Industrial Engineering Personnel Cell has been created and suitable action is taken from time to time to create job satisfaction and motivation among employees.