

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken by Government to prevent its closure?]

इस्पात, खान और धातु मंत्री (श्री एम० चन्ना रेड्डी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) कम्पनी द्वारा किये जाने वाले काम की आवश्यकताओं, प्रशासनिक सुविधाओं तथा आर्थिक स्वयंशोधिता को देखते हुए आरम्भ में कम्पनी की अधिकृत पूँजी एक करोड़ रुपये रखी गई थी ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Initially the authorized capital of the Company was kept at Rupees one crore on the basis of the nature and requirements of the work it was undertaking, as well as administrative convenience and economic viability.

(c) Does not arise.]

PUBLIC SECTOR COMPANY FOR COPPER PROJECTS

134. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that decision has been taken to form a company in the public sector for developing copper projects in India;

(b) if so, what projects are to be assigned to this Company?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the present, it is proposed to assign the development and mining of Khetri, Agnigundala and Rakha deposits to this Company.

†[] English translation.

RAIL-CUM-ROAD BRIDGE AT RAJAHMUNDRY

135. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to shelve the road portion of the rail-cum-road bridge being constructed by South Central Railway at Rajahmundry over Godavari river; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (b). The Working Group of the Planning Commission while examining the Fourth Plan of Andhra Pradesh for roads and other transport on 7th November 1966, suggested that instead of building the road-cum-rail bridge as planned it would be advisable to have a separate 2-lane road bridge at Rajahmundry. This would meet the traffic requirements in the long-term perspective in a more satisfactory manner than a 18 ft. wide road-deck on the proposed Railway bridge. The State Government representatives were also asked by the Working Group to discuss the possibility of constructing a separate road bridge with the Ministry of Transport. Since the work on construction of rail-cum-road bridge has been taken in hand the financial implications of accepting this suggestion at this stage, are being examined.

HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCE FOR STAFF POSTED AT IRIMBANAM

136. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway staff posted at Irimbanam on the Southern Railway, situated within the radius of 8 Kms of Ernakulam are granted House Rent Allowance;

(b) if so, from which date; and