

**Merging of Mecon Limited with SAIL**

†2189. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for merging Mecon Limited of Jharkhand with the Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the view point of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Mecon's employee unions have been consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) A proposal had been received from Mecon Limited for its merger with Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL).

(b) The Government propose to continue Mecon as an independent entity.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

**Steel Policy**

2190. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to announce a new steel policy; if so, by when;

(b) whether Government are projecting ten per cent growth rate for steel sector in the country;

(c) whether Government have set up any expert committee to formulate guidelines for allocating mining leases for iron ore, manganese and chrome ore in the country; and

(d) if so, by when the committee is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Steel Policy will be announced after the approval from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.