

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether it is a fact that the leaf spring industry was placed on the 'rejection list' for licensing purposes; and

(d) whether it is a fact that automobile leaf springs have been reserved for manufacture exclusively by ancillary industries as opposed to large scale industries?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):
(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) On the 28th July 1962.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The automobile leaf spring industry which is an ancillary of the Automobile Industry, is operated both in the large scale and the small scale sectors.

Royalty on Oil

***687. Shri Jashvant Mehta:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the rate at which royalties are paid on oil extracted from oil wells in Gujarat and Assam by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no uniform policy in this regard;

(c) whether the Gujarat Government has asked for increase in royalty rates; and

(d) if so, whether Government have considered their request and decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The Oil & Natural Gas Commission is the only Government agency which is extracting oil. At present the Oil & Natural Gas Commission is extracting oil only in Gujarat. The Oil & Natural Gas Commission is paying royalty at the rate of 10 per cent of the gross value of the crude at the well-head.

(b) No. Sir.

(c). No, Sir.

(d). Does not arise.

Coal Gas Plant for Delhi

***688.** { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Himmatsinhji:
Shri Solanki:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision for the implementation of Delhi's Rs. 3.5 crore coal gas plant scheme has not been taken so far;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the delay in arriving at a decision; and

(c) at what stage the issue stands at present?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a). No decision has yet been taken on the suggestion made in the Master Plan for Delhi regarding the supply of coal gas for domestic consumption.

(b) The proposal needs very careful and detailed examination from the technical and financial points of view. In fact, the Master Plan itself has suggested that the matter may be considered.

(c). As the Master Plan has now been sanctioned by the Government under the Delhi Development Act the suggestion is being passed on to the Delhi Municipal Corporation asking them to make a detailed examination from all points of view and send their recommendations to Government.

Closure of Stainless Steel Factories in Bombay

***689. Shri Kajrolkar:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eight factories making stainless steel utensils have been closed down in Bombay;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;