

Iron and Steel Plants in Bihar

5268. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Iron and Steel plants in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details alongwith locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which these plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Government do not propose to set up new iron and steel plants in Bihar during the 8th Five Year Plan. The new industrial policy announced in July, 1991, has removed 'Iron and Steel' from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted it from the requirements of compulsory licensing. No approval of Government is, therefore, required for establishment of iron and steel plants in the private sector except for locations within 25 Kms. of city with a population in excess of 10 lakhs as per the 1991 census.

[*English*]

Price of Crude oil in World Market

5269. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of crude oil has

come down in the world market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent It will be advantageous to our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The price of crude in the international market from October, 1991- February, 1993 has been showing a downward trend. Any fall in the price is beneficial to the country as it would save the outgo of foreign exchange.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Mining Activities in Bihar

5270. SHRICHINMAYANANDSWAMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mining activities have been banned in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the mining companies prohibited from carrying out the mining work in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) There is no general ban on mining activities in Bihar.

(b) does not arise.

(c) Indian Bureau of Mines has reported that following two mines were prohibited from carrying out the mining work by the Forest Department of Bihar in the area following under Forest:-