

M/s. IPICOL (Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Limited) have also been licensed to set up a sponge iron plant in Orissa in the joint sector. Their foreign collaboration for this project is with M/s. Allis Chalmers of USA.

Realising the importance of developing indigenous process for producing sponge iron, a project has also been taken up by the R and D Division of SAIL for setting up a pilot plant along with the requisite laboratory facilities at Ranchi for development of direct reduction technology using non-coking coal, widely available in India.

During the visit of the Union Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers to Abu Dhabi, the question of establishment of a Sponge Iron and Steel Complex at Abu Dhabi was discussed by the Ministers of both sides. It was then agreed that a preliminary feasibility report would be prepared by the Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited. The feasibility report has been given to the Abu Dhabi technical team that visited India in January, 1979 for discussions with Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. In the feasibility report, it has been envisaged that Sponge Iron will be produced from iron ore pellets obtained from India with associated natural gas available at Abu Dhabi. This matter is still under the consideration of the government of Abu Dhabi.

The feasibility of production of sponge iron through use of off-shore gas available in the country was also examined some time ago when it was concluded that at present it was not possible to do so, as there will not be enough gas available that could be spared for this project. The position will be reviewed later if additional quantities of off-shore gas become available.

N.C.E.R.T. Books

\*303. SHRI SHIV NARAIN SARSONIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Text Books prepared by the N.C.E.R.T. are printed and published by the Publication Division situated at Patiala House, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the system of distribution of these books to various publishers and book sellers is defective and the people of Delhi are facing hardship due to this;

(c) is it a fact that the publishers of Delhi have complained against the behaviour of the Publication Division several times; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a). No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Publications Division undertakes the sale and distribution of N.C.R.T. books. While no complaint has been received against the behaviour of the Publications Division, the Pustak Vikereta Hitkari Sangh, Delhi had pointed out last year certain difficulties regarding the distribution system. Remedial action has been taken to meet the situation.

होने वाली सजा की बैठक के लिए प्रश्न  
पोलिग्रेटर निर्वाह कारखाने

\*304. डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या केरोलिनस, रत्नगढ़ और उर्दोपक मंडी निम्नलिखित जानकारी बताने वाला एक विवरण सभा पत्रक पर प्रश्न की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में कुल कितने पोलिग्रेटर निर्वाह कारखाने हैं और उनके कालिकों के नाम क्या हैं;