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- (iii) 0.45 million tonnes of diamondiferous conglomerate with 27.91 carat/100 t diamond incidence at Itwa and 0.27 million tonnes of diamondiferous conglomerate with 23.08 carat/100 t diamond incidence in Hatupur 'A' block in Panna diamond belt.
- (iv) 0.4 million tonnes of gold ore with 1.3 g/t gold in Pandripani area, Raigarh district.
- (v) 1206 million tonnes of glauconite sandstone with 4.90%
 K₂O in Pindri area, Satna district.

A sum of about Rs. 5.55 crores has been incurred on exploration of minerals in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years.

(c) The GSI has drawn up a programme for exploration of important minerals like base-metal (copper, lead Zinc), Tin, Tungsten, rare-earth metals and rare earth elements, rock-phosphate, Potash, lignite, etc. in different parts of Rajasthan during 8th Plan period.

Seniority Criteria for Promotion in Steel Sector

- @1382. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to ignore the seniority criteria to find the suitable personnel to meet the challenges of the steel sector;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government have considered the negative impact on the work performance of senior officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): Appointment (a) to (c) the Board level posts in the Public Sector Enterprises, including steel sector, are made on the recommendations of the Public Enterprises Selection which is responsible for searching and identifying suitable professional managers for these appointments. policy of the Government is to appoint through fair and objective selection procedure keeping in view the relative merits of the candidates including The recommendations of seniority. the Public Enterprises Selection Board are processed and appointments are made with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

National Mineral Development Corporation Limited

1383. PROF. SAURIN BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects with foreign consultancy and/or foreign collaborations approved by the Central Government for the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited in the past two years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the company had to incur excessive cost for such foreign services which could have been avoided with the availability of such consultancy from other resources; and
- (c) if so, what are the details in this regard and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) In September 1991, Government approved the engagement of M/s Metchem of Canada by National Mineral Development Corporation

[@]Previously Unstarred Question 471, transferred from 29th April, 1993.