

(c) whether Government have received several objections against such move; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The profit (+) or loss (—) made by the public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Mines for the year 1991-92 is as under:

Rs./Crores

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) | (+) Rs. 93.36 |
| 2. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) | (+) Rs. 54.90 |
| 3. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) | (+) Rs. 59.14 |
| 4. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) | (-) Rs. 9.73 |
| 5. Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) | (-) Rs. 43.05 |
| 6. Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) | The accounts of the Company for the year 1991-92 have yet to be finalized by the C&AG and approved at the Annual General Meeting. |

(b) Yes, Sir. Government have so far disinvested their share in the equity of Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) and National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) to the tune of 20% and 2.72% respectively. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) and Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) . have also been earmarked for disinvestment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited

3923. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited, a Karnataka State Public Sector unit has scheelite a mineral by-product which is used in making special alloy steels particularly for Defence and other strategic fields;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prices of this mineral has come down by Rs. 50,000 to 60,000 per tonne making it uneconomic and loss making industry; and

(c) whether Government propose to give a support price for this product as has been given to similar Tungsten products produced in Rajasthan by Rajasthan Tungsten Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Scheelite occurs in small quantities in association with Gold ore in the Mines of Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited, a Karnataka State Public Sector Undertaking. However, the Company does not produce scheelite from such ores as it is not economically viable.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Boosting mineral development

3924. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether dereservation of mineral bearing areas is likely to boost the mineral development and the industries based on minerals;

(b) whether demand to this effect was made repeatedly by the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard and if

not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Reservation of an area for exploitation by public sector is done by the State Governments taking into consideration not only the likely pace of mineral development but also other relevant factors that have a bearing on the overall national interests.

(b) and (c) Mining industries has been seeking dereservation of all such areas. The Central Government has been taking decision on such proposals received from the State Governments on merits of each individual case.

Lease out of Gandhamardan Bauxite Deposit to BALCO

3925. SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lease out the Gandhamardan Bauxite deposit of Orissa to BALCO; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in affirmative, the reasons for which the present decision has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Presently BALCO does not have any mining lease for Gandhamardan Bauxite deposits in Orissa. The lease granted earlier for the above area is no longer valid. However, BALCO applied for another mining lease in the Gandhamardan area in June 1990. There

is no positive response from the State Government to Orissa to the above application which has also suffered deemed rejection.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Aluminium plants in Orissa

3926. SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS:
SHRI MANMOHAN MATHUR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Orissa Government to set up some aluminium/ alumina plants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the districts in which these plants are proposed to be set up and by which companies; and

(c) whether any proposal has been given by the Orissa Government to set up such plants in Kalahandi district, if so, whether any M.O.U. has been signed by any company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) No formal proposal has been received by the Central Government from the Government of Orissa to set up any aluminium alumina plants in Orissa. The following 3 applicants have been granted Letter of Intent (LOI) for setting up 100% Export Oriented Alumina Unit in the State of Orissa after considering the recommendations of the Govt, of Orissa and other relevant sectors:

| | Applicant | Capacity | Location |
|----|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. | M/s Larsen & Toubro | 10 LTPA | District Kalahandi |
| 2. | M/s Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL) | 10 LTPA | District Koraput |
| 3. | M/s Karnataka Telecables Limited | 5 LTPA | District Kalahandi |

M/s INDAL has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with

Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC), a state Government Undertaking for