

(ग) और (घ) कर्नाटक की उत्तर कोलार शिफ्ट पट्टी में सोने के गवेषण के लिए परामर्श कार्य करने के लिए भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण द्वारा फ्रांस के मैसर्स बी०आर०जी०एम० के साथ करार किया गया है। नेशनल मिनेरल डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन लि० हीरे के गवेषण और विदोहन के प्रस्तावों पर आस्ट्रेलिया के मैसर्स एस्थान माइनिंग कंपनी तथा मेनिन्को के साथ परामर्श कर रहा है।

(ङ) नये निक्षेपों का पता लगाने के लिए भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण के सोने की खोज के फील्ड कार्यक्रम कर्नाटक, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, केरल, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल, तमिलनाडु, उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, हिमाचल प्रदेश तथा जम्मू और कश्मीर राज्यों में चल रहा है।

खनिज गवेषण निगम की वर्तमान स्वर्ण गवेषण परियोजनाएं आन्ध्र प्रदेश और कर्नाटक में चल रही हैं।

Extension of Services to Retiring Officers in the National Mineral Development Corporation

2513. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited has been liberally granting extension of services to a good number of retiring senior officers;

(b) whether some of such officers have also been employed after retirement as consultant;

(c) whether regular senior officials of the Corporation have been agitating on the issue; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) and (b) National Minerals Development Corporation Limited

(NMDC) has granted extension of service to a few executives to maintain continuity of operations in critical areas. The Company has also re-employed some retired officers as consultants for short periods to complete certain special assignments.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

New Mines at Bailadila

2514. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NMDC's proposal to open a new mine at deposits No. 10 and 11A at Bailadila has been held up for want of approval by the PIB;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that such a delay could lead to a supply deficit in the mid 90s, particularly with a string of iron ore based industries, such as pig iron and sponge iron; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this regard as it is feared that the above mine is not likely to come on stream for another five years i.e. 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) No, Madam. Ministry of Steel has recently submitted a proposal for consideration by the PIB, to permit NMDC to prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR) for development of these mines.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Aluminium

2515. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that as per report by Brook Hunt and Associates, the Aluminium Industry would be the main beneficiary of new developments in car design during 1990-98 and that more than one million tonne yearly (1Mt/y) of aluminium would be consumed by car industry by 1998; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take for the increased production of aluminium apart from other metals like nickel, copper and zinc which would be less in demand as compared to aluminium based fuel injection systems in India and abroad with details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Report by Brook Hunt and Associates has not come to the notice of the Government. However, the Government is aware about the likely increased applications of aluminium in automobile industry, India is presently not only self-sufficient in aluminium but also export about 15% of the aluminium produced annually. It has also abundant resources of bauxite which can contribute to higher production of aluminium if the demand and price factors are favourable.

Perspective Plan for Steel Sector

2516. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for having a 20-years perspective plan for Steel Sector; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the likely date of its being ready and presentation to the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Government has set up a Task Force for preparing an action plan for the growth of Indian Iron and Steel Industry over the next 20 years. The report is likely to be submitted shortly. Details of recommendations of the Task Force and action to be taken thereon will be known only thereafter.

Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL)

2517. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL), is planning to diversify the activities into high carbon and low carbon Ferro-ni; and

(b) if so, the proposed capacities of the high-low carbon Ferro-ni plants site and location, construction/commissioning estimated cost thereof during this year and by when they will go for full production by using captive ore from its own Mines (plant wise); and

(c) keeping in view bad days of weak ore demand whether the company is branching out into Ferro-alloys, also indicating the future prospects/further diversification purposes of MOIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) With a view to upgrade the poor quality ores, diversify for producing higher value products and improve its profitability, Manganese Ore India Limited is considering various proposals for being implemented during the VIII plan. The projects identified include High Carbon and Low Carbon Ferro Manganese Plants, a second electrolytic manganese dioxide plant, an electrolytic manganese metal plant, etc.