

(c) what are the details of ocean wealth found so far as a result of these studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Surveys of the continental shelf of India and the deep sea are underway. As a result of the surveys carried out for the polymetallic nodules, India has been given the status of "Pioneer Investor" by the U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea.

(c) Within the continental shelf the deposits of flmenite, phospanite, magnetite, monazite etc. have been identified in the sea bed.

Alumina project in Andhra Pradesh

504. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN; Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 8 lakh tonne alumina plant project in Andhra Pradesh has been shelved; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

India Aluminium Company Ltd.

505. SHRI KALYAN ROY;

SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Aluminium Company Ltd., a large multinational company has not paid over Rs. 25 crores for 1980 to 1983 to the Aluminium Regulation Account as per Aluminium Control Order.

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise, till the end of February, 1984;

(c) whether any arrear has been paid, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether interest has been charged on arrears, if so, at what rate;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what steps have been taken against the company for deliberate failure to comply with the Aluminium Control Order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b) Indian Aluminium Company (INDAL) did not pay the dues of Rs. 19.42 crores to the Aluminium Regulation Account for the period from September, 1980 to July, 1981.

(c) INDAL started paying the arrears in instalments in April, 1982. During the period from April, 1982 to August, 1983, it paid Rs. 4 crores, leaving a balance of Rs. 15.42 crores yet to be paid.

(d) and (e) The question of levy of interest on arrears is under consideration.

(f) On 3-2-1984 INDAL was directed to pay the balance dues in 48 equal monthly instalments, each amounting to Rs. 32,12,525/-. INDAL was also asked to furnish a bank guarantee, initially valid for one year, for the arrears of Rs. 15.42 crores. INDAL has agreed to comply with the above directions.

M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd.

506. SHRI KALYAN ROY;

SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question 584 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1983 and state:

(a) whether the proposals for final disposition of the M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd. has since been processed;

(b) if so, the decision in this regard; and