

—awarded Srinivas Ramanujam Medal by the Indian National Science Academy in 1962.

Finds of Tin and Tungsten Ore in Haryana ..

2572. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rich finds of tin and tungsten ore have recently been located in district Bhiwani, Haryana; and

(b) if so, what is the extent of the ore reserves estimated to be present in the areas and what steps are being contemplated for exploitation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE):

(a) Fairly promising occurrence of tin mineralisation associated with some Tungsten has been recorded in parts of Bhiwani District, Haryana by the Geological Survey of India.

(b) Exploration for these minerals is still in the preliminary stages, and no estimates of their reserve have been made so far. The commercial exploitation of these minerals will depend upon the techno-economic viability of the deposits, when established.

Scientific and Technological Researches for use in Rural Areas

2573. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of and the types

of scientific and technological researches which have made so far their use in the rural areas;

(b) how many achievements of those researches are being used in the country-side at present; and

(c) if no indigenous technological innovation is used in the countryside, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) According to a preliminary survey made by the Department of Science and Technology up to the beginning of 1980, there were about 700 sponsored rural development projects out of which over 400 projects had science and technology inputs. The kind of research and development efforts made by various agencies cover a wide spectrum of activities in the rural areas such as agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, food processing, forestry, irrigation and provision of drinking water, village and cottage industry products, rural housing, health, non-conventional and renewable sources of energy for application in rural areas, waste utilisation, communication in the rural areas, improvements in traditional occupations among women, weaker sections, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc.

(b) No such data are available. However, promotional efforts are continuously being made to demonstrate and publicise rural technologies developed by various agencies such as ICAR, ICMR, CSIR, KVIC, All India Handloom Board and Agricultural Universities. A council for Advancement of Rural Technology (CART) has also been set up to act as the national nodal point for co-operation of efforts at development and dissemination of rural technology for all sectors other than those covered by ICAR and its sister bodies.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to (a) and (b) above.

Sick Paper Industry

2574. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to rejuvenate the sick paper industry and closure of paper mills;

(b) whether introduction of medium and small scale technology in imported form has also been considered by Government as a remedial measure; and

(c) whether adequate incentives and fool-proof guarantees are also under Government's consideration to ensure viability and competitiveness in the said industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The closure/sickness of certain paper mills was due to industrial disputes and financial problems, and introduction of imported technology would not be a relevant consideration at present. The question of revival

or such units including implementation of suitable modernisation/renovation schemes has been taken up with the financial institutions and concerned State Governments.

.. Sick Paper Mills ..

2575. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the sick paper mills in the country;

(b) the reasons for their closure; and

(c) the estimated loss of production, employment and Government revenue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating particulars of paper mills lying closed at present is attached. Most of these mills are facing financial problems due to cost over runs at the project implementation stage, or due to continued cash losses which have eroded their viability. Some mills are closed due to industrial disputes.

(c) It is estimated that the loss of production due to closure/low capacity utilization of paper mills in general would be about one lakh tonnes during the current year. No authentic figures of loss of employment and revenue are available at present, as some paper mills have been intermittently closed and production relates to different varieties of paper and paper-board the exact value of which is also dependent of fluctuating market conditions.