

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मगन भाई बरोट) : (क) तथा (ख) कम्पनी अपने पुनर्वितरक स्टॉकिस्टों से, उनको लगातार मुहैया किए गए सामान की कीमत के सम्बन्ध में, जमा के तौर पर रकमें लेती रही है। ये रकमें, सिक्कुरिटी के तौर पर दो जाने वाली पेशगी की रकमें होती हैं और इनको लेने का आशय अशोध्य-ऋणों संबंधी जोखिम से बचने का है। पिछले छह वित्तीय वर्षों के दौरान कम्पनी द्वारा ग्रहण की गई ऐसी राशियाँ तथा इसके वित्तीय वर्ष की अन्तिम तारीख को इसके पास रखी इन्हीं रकमों तथा इन तारीखों को कम्पनी की परिसम्पत्तियों की कुल राशि का व्योरा इस प्रकार है :—

(लाख रुपये)

वर्ष	सिक्कुरिटी पेशगी	कुल परिसम्पत्ति
31-12-74	224.37	7917.52
31-12-75	188.54	8559.58
31-12-76	270.73	9676.02
31-12-77	300.29	12202.20
31-12-78	309.77	13681.01
31-12-79	479.34	16913.45

(ग) तथा (घ) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की स्पष्ट अनुमति प्राप्त किए जाने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि इस प्रकार की रकमों को जमा के रूप में स्वीकार करने के संबंध में, विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम 1973 की धारा 26(7) के उपबन्धों के प्रवर्तन से छूट दी गई है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The company has been taking deposits from its redistribution stockists towards the price of goods continuously supplied to them. These are in the nature of security advances and are

t[] English translation.

intended to cover the risk of bad debts. The amount of such deposits taken by the company during the past six financial years and remaining on hand with it as on the last date of its financial year, as also the total amount of the company's assets on these dates are as under:—

Year	Security advance	Total Assets
		(Rs. lakhs)
31-12-1974	224.37	7917.52
31-12-1975	188.54	8559.58
31-12-1976	270.73	9676.02
31-12-1977	300.29	12202.20
31-12-1978	309.77	13681.01
31-12-1979	479.34	16913.45

(c) and (d) Specific permission of the Reserve Bank of India is not required since acceptance of such deposits is exempted from the operation of Section 26(7) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.]

Survey for exploring geo-thermal sources of power

1307. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA

SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

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

(a) whether Geological Survey has spent considerable money in exploring geo-thermal sources of power i.e. mining for heat; and

(b) whether he will place a comprehensive and exhaustive statement about the work of Geological Survey of India and other agencies under his ministry in this area?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Systematic Geothermal exploration was initiated by the Geological Survey of India (G.S.I.) in 1973. Since then, the following seven multi-disciplinary Geothermal Exploration Projects have been taken up for intensive study and investigation:—

- (1) Puga-Chjumathang Geothermal Project, J & K;
- (2) Parbati Valley Project, Himachal Pradesh;
- (3) Beas Valley Geothermal Project, Himachal Pradesh;
- (4) Sutlej Valley Geothermal Project, Himachal Pradesh;
- (5) Sohna Geothermal Project, Haryana;
- (6) Alaknanda Geothermal Project, Uttar Pradesh;
- (7) West Coast Geothermal Project, Maharashtra.

The assistance of the U.N.D.P. is being utilised in the execution of Parbati Valley Geothermal Project, Himachal Pradesh, since 1976. The Central Electricity Authority, Department of Power, is the chief counterpart agency for this U.N.D.P. project, and the G.S.I. has been entrusted the responsibility of exploration activities under the Project.

A Geothermal Energy Coordination Committee is functioning under the Ministry of Energy for coordinating and monitoring geothermal exploration and utilisation studies carried out by various agencies, including G.S.I.

At the present stage of investigation, in the country, it is premature to give an accurate assessment of the recoverable potential of this source of energy.

These investigations are part of G.S.I.'s normal activities. An estimate of the actual expenditure is not possible as G.S.I.'s budget is not drawn

up on a functional basis, but with reference to manpower, material and equipment.

Exploitation of Iron ore of Bailadila

1308. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to exploit Iron Ore deposits at Bailadila for domestic use besides its export to Japan; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) It is proposed to exploit Bailadila Deposits for supply of iron ore to Vizag Steel Plant in addition to exports to Japan. Bailadila Mines will provide initially production of 3.3 MT of ROM (runs of mine) per annum, which can be stepped up to about 5.0 MT ROM at a later stage.

Development of tourist spots in Himachal Pradesh

1309. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop some more tourist spots in Himachal Pradesh in the near future; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b) The Tourism plan is being reviewed with a view to gearing up facilities to meet a two-fold increase in the next five years. Among the measures contemplated to achieve this objective are (i) identification and development of travel circuits and (ii) provision of adequate infrastructural facilities at the centres falling in these travel circuits. For this purpose discussion