

There is, however, no reference in this important declaration or any other evidence of serious exploration of the possibility of a plan on the pattern of Marshall Plan to help the developing countries of the world.

Geological survey of North-Eastern States

980. SHRI N. G. TOMPOK SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any geological survey of the Northeastern States like Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Nagaland; if so, when the survey was undertaken;

(b) what are the results of the survey; item-wise;

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor, particularly when there are positive signs of rich minerals deposits in the said region;

(d) whether it is a fact that some antisocial elements are indulging in smuggling precious stones found in the region with the active help of international gangs; if so, what is the number of cases which have come to the notice of Government and what steps are proposed to be taken to stop the pilferage of the valuable minerals from the region?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India have been carrying out surveys in different parts of the north eastern region intermittently for a long time. Systematic surveys in the region started with the opening of a circle office of GSI in Shillong in 1961. The surveys were intensified with the opening of the regional office of GSI in Shillong and circle offices in other parts of the region in 1974.

(b) As a result of the surveys carried out so far, the minerals found in the region include 4640 million tonnes of limestone of all grades in Aruna-

chal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Nagaland; 378 million tonnes of dolomite of all grades and marble in Arunachal Pradesh; 887 million tonnes of coal in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Assam and Meghalaya; 0.5 million tonnes of sillimanite in Meghalaya; over 0.21 million tonnes of glass sands in Tripura; 0.12 million tonnes of basemetal deposits in Meghalaya; about 1.94 million tonnes of nickel-chromium bearing magnetite in Nagaland. Beside the above, a large number of minor occurrences of fireclay, asbestos, graphite, copper, nickel and cobalt bearing sulphides and building materials were also located.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Government have no information regarding smuggling of precious stones from the Indian side of the border.

News item regarding supply of foreign wine to P.M.'s House

981. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in a recent issue of the magazine "Onlooker" that Prime Minister's house is supplied with foreign wines; and

(b) if so, whether the wines are meant to be used only by foreign guests visiting the Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) and (b) The report is erroneous and misleading. Perhaps it relates to one occasion in January, 1977 when intimation was received that a gift from the President of a friendly country to the former Prime Minister including six cases of wine were awaiting clearance, since it was sent by a foreigner. President it was felt that the gift could not be returned and consideration was given at that time for the gift to be utilised in the Govern-