

(a) whether a protocol for technical assistance in the development of mines has been signed between India and the Soviet Union; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A USSR delegation arrived in India on December 20, 1973 on an 8 day official visit. They held discussions with the Indian team. After discussion a Protocol was signed on 27th December, 1973 which provides for Soviet assistance for development of coal mines in Singrauli Coalfields in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Jhajra Block in Raniganj Coalfields in West Bengal and Kusmunda Block of Korba Coalfields in Madhya Pradesh, training of Indian Engineers in the USSR and Soviet assistance in development of opencast mining techniques. It further provides for continuance of Soviet assistance in technology and manufacture of coal mining machinery in India.

Indian Experts Working Abroad

422. MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM KHAPARDE:

SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:

SHRI N. R. CHOWDHURY:

SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries where Indian experts are working under the Indian Technical and Economic Co-operation Programme to assist in the foreign development programmes; and

(b) the terms and conditions of such services rendered by the said experts abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a)

Afghanistan, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Oman, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Tanzania, Upper Volta and Zambia.

(b) Broadly the terms are similar to those applicable for the non-IFS personnel in our Missions. Besides the pay as admissible in India, the experts are entitled to air passages, compensatory (foreign) allowance, children's education allowance, free furnished accommodation, carriage of personal effects within certain specified limits, medical assistance, etc.

Iron Ore Mines in Public and Private Sector Undertakings

423. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of iron ore mines in public and private sectors respectively together with their production, mine-wise during 1972-73;

(b) whether Government propose to take over all the private owned mines; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) The number of iron ore mines, in public and private sector, during 1972 and their production is given below:—

(in million tonne)		
	No. of mines	Production
Public Sector ..	33	13.12
Private Sector ..	368	22.35

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to take over the iron ore mines in private sector.