

(d) No exploration has been done as yet by any agency.

(e) The reasons for not exploring the area by the erstwhile owner are not known. There is also no programme of undertaking exploratory drilling in the area in the immediate future. However, the virgin area adjoining Dhakenkhenda area has been taken up for drilling by the Coal Mines Authority Limited.

Development of indigenous equipment at Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine

1750. SHRI H. I. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any indigenous equipment has recently been fabricated by the Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine at Bangalore and if so, what is its nature; and

(b) the extent to which this fabrication has saved foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) (a) Yes, Sir. The following items of equipment have been recently fabricated by the Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine:

1. Aircrew Cooling Trolley.
2. Ballistocardiograph.
3. Ergometer.
4. Rotating Wheel.
5. Flying Overall.
6. Flying Boots.
7. Anti 'G' Suit.
8. Oxygen Mask Type 'P'.
9. Seat Cushions.
10. Outer Protective Helmet (Bone Dome).
11. Vacuum Packed Sleeping Bag.
12. Universal Cockpit.
13. Verticular Simulator.
14. Crash Helmet Testing Device.
15. Accelerometers.
16. Canopy Distortion Test Equipment.
17. Anthropomorphic Dummies.
18. Survival packs.

(b) The likely saving in foreign exchange has not been assessed and the information is not readily available.

Writ Petition in Supreme Court challenging Coking Coal Nationalisation Act

1751. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE:
SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:

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

(a) names of the Companies having a subscribed capital of Rs. 70 lacs or more and who have filed writ petitions in the Supreme Court challenging the Coking Coal Nationalisation Act; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Companies or their shareholders had earlier made a direct representation to Government before filing writs in the court?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Coking Coal Mines Companies having more than Rs. 75 lakhs of subscribed capital who have challenged the Nationalisation Act are Oriental Coal Company and Burrakur Coal Company.

(b) Some representations have been received from associations of shareholders and shareholders of the taken over mines.

Control on distribution of commercial grade aluminium

1732. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON:

SHRI SHISHIR KUMAR:
SHRI B. R. MUNDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of commercial grade aluminium in the country has resulted in short fall of production of Aluminium Extrusions and other products by the secondary manufacturers;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the absence of control on distribution of Commercial Grade Aluminium, the primary producers have arbitrarily cut down the supply of this material to the Secondary Manufacturers; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government to impose distribution control to ensure equitable distribution of the material?

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

(b) and (c) The short production of Electrical and Commercial grade metal in the country owing to nonavailability of

power has affected all users of Aluminium metal. Though there is no distribution control on commercial grade aluminium, the primary aluminium producers have been directed to supply commercial grade aluminium on pro-rata basis.

Vacancies in Public Sector Undertakings

175.1. SHRI RANBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the public sector undertakings in which the post of Chairman is lying vacant;

(b) the steps Government propose to take to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) by when these vacancies are expected to be filled up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) In so far as the Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Heavy Industry are concerned, the post of Chairman are at present vacant in the following 8 Undertakings:—

- (i) Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi.
- (ii) Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur.
- (iii) Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., New Delhi.

(b) (i) In the case of Heavy Engineering Corporation, the Board of Directors was recently dissolved at their last Annual Meeting. Proposal to continue the same Chairman on the new Board is being processed.

(ii) In the case of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation also, the Board of Directors was recently dissolved at their last Annual General meeting. The question of the constitution of the new Board of Directors including the Chairman is under consideration.

(iii) In the case of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., proposals for the filling up of the post are under consideration.

(c) These vacancies are expected to filled up soon.

Setting up of Mica Board

1270. SHRI PAPI REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred

Question No. 1190 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August, 1973 and state:

(a) whether the Mica Board has since been constituted;

(b) if so, what is the composition and functions of the Board; and

(c) whether all the mica producing areas in the country have been represented on the Board?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(1>) and (c) Do not arise.

Short supply of raw material

1366. SHRI SHYAM LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-ferrous metal processing industry is facing difficulty on account of short supply of raw materials; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to meet the shortage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b) On account of continuous rise in the prices of non-ferrous metals in the international market during the last few months, the non-ferrous metals processing industry has been experiencing some difficulty in obtaining adequate quantity of imported non-ferrous metals. In accordance with the current import policy, the allocation of raw materials is made on replenishment basis. In a period of rising prices, value generally becomes the limiting factor but with a view to helping the actual users, a system has been adopted whereby the value of non-ferrous metals is calculated on the basis of quantities recommended by the sponsoring authority and the latest CIF prices indicated by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation.

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Annual Report and Accounts (1972-73) of the Heavy Electricals (India) Limited and Related Papers

II. Annual Report and Accounts (1972-73) of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and Related Papers

1 HI MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI): Sir, I beg today