

SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES OF CONSULAR OFFICIALS

*589. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of rupees worth of foreign watches, cameras and other valuable restricted items are being regularly smuggled into India for sale by a section of Consular officials representing European countries in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the number of such cases apprehended by Government during the last two years; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to prevent the smuggling activities of the officials of these missions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Two cases of smuggling of contraband items by members of the Consular Corps in Calcutta were detected during the last two years. Goods worth Rs. 23 lakhs were involved.

(c) Necessary steps continue to be taken to prevent and detect such cases. It is not in the public interest to divulge the nature of the steps taken as that may defeat the very purpose of taking these steps.

J DECENTRALISATION OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

*617. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India is being decentralised by merging the Ground Water Division in the Central Board and transforming the Mineral Exploration Corporation wing into the Mineral Exploration Corporation;

(b) if so, whether there is any resentment against this merger by the staff of Geological Survey of India; and

(c) if so, the reasons for decentralising Geological Survey of India ?

jTransferred from the 29th August, 1972

^Transferred from the 30th August, 1972

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM):

(a) and (c) There is no proposal to decentralise the Geological Survey of India as such. Government have, however merged the Ground water wing of the Geological Survey of India with the Central Ground Water Board of the Ministry of Agriculture with effect from 1.8.1972. This decision was necessitated because the exploration and exploitation of groundwater resources which were hitherto handled by separate organisations, are intimately related functions and called for a single organisation to look after these functions.

A decision has also been taken to set up a Mineral Exploration Corporation to undertake the work of exploration in detail and proving of mineral resources in the country in the shortest possible time. The main reason for setting up the Mineral Exploration Corporation is to avoid unnecessary overlapping in the functions of the various agencies connected with exploration and exploitation of minerals in the country and to bridge the gap between the preliminary exploration and commercial exploitation.

(b) Some employees of the Geological Survey of India have expressed their unhappiness at these decisions taken by the Government.

CLOSURE OF FACTORIES

1533. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the number of factories closed in different states up to March, 1972 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : Information is being collected.

1534. [Transferred to the 29th August, 1972]

REPRESENTATION BY COAL MINES LABOURERS

1535. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from labourers of any coal mines in West Bengal in 1970-71 regarding closure of Coal Mines due to exhaustion of reserves;

(b) if so, the names of the units and the action taken by Government in the matter;

(c) whether Government have also received any representation from management of any coal Mine in West Bengal in December, 1970 or early 1971 on the same subject; and

(d) if so, the names of the management and the contents of the representation in brief?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR & REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :

(a) to (d) The Department of Labour and Employment do not appear to have received any representation on the subject either from the Workers or the Employers in the years 1970 and 1971. It is understood, however, that during that period four mines were closed in West Bengal on account of the exhaustion of the coal reserves.

1536. [Transferred to the 29th August, 1972]

SET UP OF NEW STEEL PLANTS IN FIFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

1537. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up more steel plants in the country during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the feasibility of setting up of a steel plant in Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) Preparatory work on the Fifth Plan programme for steel development has been taken in hand. A Working Group has been constituted to examine the question of expansion of the capacity of existing intergrated steel plants as also suitable sites, on techno-economic considerations, for new steel plants. These studies will be based on techno-economic considerations and are expected to be completed by the end of this year.

ENHANCEMENT OF INDIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1538. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been considering any proposal to enlarge the present territorial water boundary of India; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDR PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

केन्द्रीय उपक्रमों में ठेके पर श्रमिक

1539. श्री रतनलाल जैन :

श्री भानुसिंह वर्मा :

श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर :

श्री दशदीश प्रसाद माथुर :

श्री डी० के० पटेल :

श्री ताल आडवाणी :

सरदार कुमार सं० चं० आग्ने :

क्या श्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के किन-किन उपक्रमों, संस्थानों और विभागों में ठेके पर श्रमिक रखे जाते हैं ?

LABOUR ON CONTRACT BASIS IN CENTRAL UNDERTAKINGS

1539. SHRI RATTAN LAL JAIN :
SHRIMAN SINGH VARMA : SHRI
N. K. SHEJWALKAR : SHRI IAC
DISH PRASAD
MATH JR: SHRID.
K.PATEL : SHRI
LALK.ADVANI : SHRIS.
C. ANGRE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the names of the central public undertakings, institutions and departments which engage labour on contract basis ?]

श्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और यथा समय समा की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी ।

[THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.]

[] English translation.