

10-12 December, 1970 and had discussions with the Chairman and Member (Agri.), Planning Commission. Ministry of Agriculture are not aware of any meeting had by the Committee with other heads of several U. N. Agency Missions in India.

(b) The purpose of the visit of the Committee was to interview distinguished social Scientists, Politicians, Administrators and policy framers in India to get a first hand view of the latest developments in India in the field of Agrarian Reform.

(c) The discussions centred around the progress of various aspects of Land Reform and agricultural credit in India. The Members of the Committee were apprised of the latest developments in these fields in India.

INSTALLED CAPACITY IN THREE PUBLIC SECTOR STEEL PLANTS

*278. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES /इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage utilisation of installed capacity in the three public sector steel plants at Durgapur, Rourkela and Bhilai in 1970-71 as compared to the previous year 1969-70;

(b) whether any effective step has been taken by Government to ensure fuller utilisation of capacity in these plants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES /इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) In terms of Steel ingot, the production during 1970-71 at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants was to the extent of 77.6%, 57.7% and 39.6% of installed capacity. The corresponding figures for 1969-70 were 74.4%, 61.3% and 51.1%.

(b) and (c) Within the limitations imposed by the industrial relations situation, the Management of Hindustan Steel Limited is concentrating on all possible efforts to raise production to significantly higher levels as rapidly as

possible. These include improved maintenance of plant and equipment, procurement of spares, refractories, locos and other essential materials, speeding up of capital programmes required to correct imbalances in production facilities, introduction of technological improvements etc. Efforts are also being made to improve industrial relations by trying to resolve industrial disputes by mutual discussions as far as possible. A revised incentive scheme has also been evolved with a view to encouraging higher production and productivity. The revised scheme has been introduced in most of the important Units of the Bhilai Steel Plant and in some of the Units of the other two plants, in consultation with the Unions and it is proposed to extend this scheme to the remaining units in due course.

राजस्थान के बाड़मेर जिले में खनिज पदार्थों का पता लगाना

* 279. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान के बाड़मेर जिले में किन किन खनिज पदार्थों का पता चला है जिन्हें निकाले जाने का कार्य अभी तक आरम्भ नहीं हुआ है ;

(ख) निरन्तर अकाल की स्थिति में रहने वाले इस क्षेत्र के लोगों को भी रोजगार दिलाने की दृष्टि से क्या सरकार कुछ समय के लिये रायल्टी में कमी अथवा उसका निलम्बन करने पर विचार करेगी ; और

(ग) इस क्षेत्र में इन खनिज पदार्थों पर आधारित उद्योगों को चलाने की क्या योजनाएँ हैं ?

†[MINERALS DISCOVERED IN THE BARMER DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN

*279. SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES /इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the minerals discovered in District Barmer of Rajasthan of which exploitation has not yet been started ;

† [] English translation.

(b) whether Government would consider reduction or suspension of realisation of royalty for some time with a view to providing employment also to the people of this region living under continuous famine conditions; and

(c) what are the plans to start industries in the area based on these minerals?]

इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री एस० मोहन कुमारमंगलम) : (क) भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण द्वारा राजस्थान के बाड़मेर जिले में किए गए अन्वेषणों के परिणामस्वरूप बेन्टोनाइट की 85 लाख टन तक और "फुल्लर-अर्थ" की 8 करोड़ 50 लाख टन की उपलब्ध राशियाँ प्रतिपादित हुई हैं। जिप्समाइट की भी उपलब्ध राशियाँ अवस्थित हुई हैं। यह खनिज इस समय अंशतः समन्वेषित किया जा रहा है।

(ख) क्योंकि इस मामले में राज्य सरकार का संबंध है, अतः राज्य सरकार से जानकारी की अपेक्षा की गई है और प्राप्त होने पर सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ग) ऐसा पता चला है कि राजस्थान औद्योगिक और खनिज विकास निगम बाड़मेर जिले में बेन्टोनाइट निक्षेपों के लिए क्रियागत संयंत्र की स्थापना हेतु संभाव्यता के बारे में अध्ययन कर रहा है। इसके बारे में और अधिक जानकारी की अपेक्षा की गई है और प्राप्त होने पर सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

†[THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) As a result of investigations conducted by the Geological Survey of India in the Barmer district of Rajasthan, reserves of the order of 85 lakh tonnes of Bentonite and 8 crores 50 lakh tonnes of Fuller's earth have been proved. Reserves of gypsum have also been located. These minerals are being partly exploited at present

(b) As this matter relates to the State Government, the information has been called for from them and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

†[] English translation.

(c) It is understood that the Rajasthan Industrial and Mineral Development Corporation are carrying out studies about the possibility of setting up of an activation plant for Bentonite deposits in Barmer District. Fuller information has been called for about this also and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.]

SUBSIDY PAID BY COAL BOARD

*280. SHRI KALYAN ROY :

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major portion of subsidy paid by the Coal Board every year go to coal mines owned by fourteen Industrial Houses listed in the Monopolies Commission Report;

(b) the names of coal mines owned by them and the amount of subsidy for stowing and adverse factors which has been paid to each one of them in 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971 (till April); and

(c) whether Government propose to curb this payment to these 14 Industrial Houses; if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Amount of stowing assistance paid to coal mines owned by the fourteen Industrial Houses in 1970-71 total Rs. 220.60 lakhs constituting 38% of the total assistance to collieries. Similarly, assistance for adverse factors paid to these companies totals Rs. 81.26 lakhs constituting 51% of the total to all collieries.

(b) Three Statements A to C giving the relevant information are laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Eligibility for subsidies is governed by the provisions of the Coal Mines (Conservation Safety and Development) Act, 1952 and the Rules framed thereunder and payment of subsidies are made at the rates prescribed by the Central Government as provided in the Coal Mines (Conservation & Safety) Rules, 1954. So long as the Coal Mines fulfil the prescribed requirements under