

allotted but was sold in public auction held on 8-12-1957, to Messrs. Rama Body Builders, for Rs. 1,50,000. The area of the land, according to the site plan, is 2152.5 Sq. yards.

(b) and (c) The land was in occupation of the firm before the auction took place and it is liable to pay damage charges for use from the date of occupation till the date of acceptance of bid. The date from which it has been in occupation of the firm is being ascertained. The damage charges will then be calculated and necessary recoveries made.]

COTTON PRODUCTION

916. SHRI K. SUNDARAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/ कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee of agricultural experts of his Ministry has submitted a new plan for increasing production of cotton :

(b) if so, the main recommendations of this Committee;;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on these recommendations; and

(d) if so, whether they will be implemented with effect from the 1971-72 cotton crop year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/ कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has [recommended that as a short term plan to raise production of cotton an Intensive Cotton District Programme should be taken up in selected areas. The main features of this programme are contained in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the Committee are being considered by the Government of India.

STATEMENT

The main features of the Intensive Cotton District Programme are indicated below :—

1, *Irrigated Area*.—The main strategy for securing additional production would consist of:—

- (i) Coverage of the entire area by pure seed especially of the new varieties.
- (ii) Maintaining optimum plant population;
- (iii) Weed control;
- (iv) Adoption of full plant protection schedule on prophylactic basis; and
- (v) Fertilisation at the recommended level.

This would be supported by an extensive net work of demonstrations incorporating all the *new* technology. For making the inputs available to the farmers within their easy reach under the agency, it is proposed to open more sale depots for all inputs and to involve private agencies by providing assistance for storage facilities, credit, commission etc. Suitable incentives would also be provided on the inputs. Field staff would be employed on an intensive scale to ensure individual farmer approach. The total area to be covered by 1973-74 will be 5.60 lakh hectares.

2. *Rain fed Area*.—The programme envisaged for the rainfed area will consist of Intensive pilot demonstrations of improved practices on compact blocks. The total area to be covered by demonstrations will be 1.40 lakh hectares.

LOCATION OF NICKEL DEPOSITS IN SUKHINDA, CUTTACK, ORISSA

917. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of deposits of nickel has been located in Sukhinda area, Cuttack District, of Orissa;

(b) whether Government have under study a proposal to set up a nickel plant in Orissa; and

(c) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND

MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य
सचिव (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a)
Detailed investigations so far carried out by
the Geological Survey of India have placed
the inferred reserves of nickel ore in Sukhinda
area at 15 million tonnes of which 10.6
million tonnes in Kama block analyse more
than 1 per cent nickel and 4.41 million tonnes
analyse between 0.84 per cent to 1 percent
nickel.

(b) and (c) The feasibility report for
development of the deposits prepared by the
Consultants (M/s Chemical and Metallurgical
Design Company) has been recently received
and is under examination. It is only when the
result of this examination is available will it
be possible to take an investment decision for
the setting up of a plant on the basis of this
ore.

**DELAY IN TACKLING OVER DHEMO MAIN
COLLIERY BY N.C.D.C.**

918. DR. Z. A. AHMAD : SHRI
KALYAN ROY :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND
MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased
to refer to the reply to Starred Question No.
374 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th
August, 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the
discontent among workers of coal mines
because of the delay in taking a decision by
the National Coal Development Corporation
to take over Dhemu Main Colliery, which was
closed in October, 1968;

(b) on how many occasions the officials
of the N.C.D.C. have visited the colliery and
whether any report has been submitted so far;
if so, details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for this delay and
by when Government is expected to take a
decision; and

(d) whether a fire broke out in one of the
coal seams in this period and if so, the loss of
coal as a result thereof?

391RS/71—3

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND

MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य

*T5ft (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN);

(a) to (c) The Dhemu Main Colliery belongs
to a Private Company and the National Coal
Development Corporation have no authority to
take it over straightaway. At the request of the
West Bengal Government, the Corporation
officials visited the mines on 4 occasions to
assess its techno-economic possibilities. Their
reports show that although the colliery still has
substantial reserves which could be developed
with further investment, it had incurred heavy
liabilities before closing down and there are
large public demands and other claims which
remain unsatisfied. The matter is presently
under consideration of the West Bengal
Government.

(d) A fire was reported to have broken out
in January, 1971. No loss of coal has,
however, taken place so far because of timely
action by the Coal Board in sealing off the
mine entry.

**ESTIMATED RESERVES OF MINERALS IN
ORISSA**

919. SHRI CHITTA BASL :
SHRI PRANAB KUMAR
MUKHERJEE :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the total
estimated reserve of major minerals in Orissa
is around 5,000 million tons; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or contemplated
to be taken by Government to exploit these
resources ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND

MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य

सचिव (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes,
Sir. The total estimated inferred reserves of
some major minerals in Orissa namely iron
ore, coal, limestone, dolomite, clays,
chromite,