

steel and other minerals to various countries upto 30th June, 1970;

(b) the quantities of minerals which are to be exported during the current year and how they compare with the quantities exported during the last three years; and

(c) what steps are being taken to see that our mineral stock is not depleted by the exports and that the

expansion of our steel plants is maintained?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) Exports of iron ore, other minerals, and finished iron and steel during the last three years were as under

(Value in Crores of Rupees)

	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
Iron Ore	79.33	89.60	100.45
Manganese Ore	11.3	11.9	11.5
Coal	3.43	4.5	2.38
Mica	16.18	15.40	17.5
Iron & Steel (including pig iron)	51.94	74.45	77.20

(b) Actual export of iron ore and other minerals during the last three

years and targets for 1970-71 are indicated below:

	Actual Exports		(Qty. in million tonnes)	
	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
				(Target)
Iron Ore	14.1	15.9	17.7	23.0
Manganese Ore	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.34
Coal	0.36	0.45	0.3	0.62
Mica (in 000 Kgs.)	23,631	20,949	24,250	24,500

(c) Plans for production and export of these minerals have been worked out on a careful assessment of the reserves, so as to meet adequately not only the requirements of our own expanding steel industry but also to maximise the foreign exchange earnings from the export of these items so essential for the development of our economy.

HARYANA'S SHARE OF WATER FROM PONG DAM

265. SHRI SULTAN SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of water proposed to be added to the Gobind Sagar after the completion of the Pong Dam

(b) the quantity of water proposed to be given to Haryana as a result of this addition; and

(c) the steps that are being taken by the Government of India in consultation with the Government of Haryana to consume that enhanced share of water?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) After completion of Beas-Sutlej Link Project, in an average year about 3.8 million acre feet of Beas waters are proposed to be diverted into Sutlej upstream of Gobind Sagar.

(b) and (c) These issues are related to the question of sharing of 7.2 million acre feet of surplus Ravi-Beas waters, allocated to erstwhile

Punjab, between Punjab and Har- yana. In this regard the Government of India have appointed a Committee of technical experts to collect data and such other facts as are relevant for discussions leading to the determination of the shares of the respective States. The work of the Committee is in progress.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION BOARD

266. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Defence Production Board to coordinate the activities of different production establishments in his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.C. SETHI): (a) A proposal is under consideration to set up a high level Ordnance Production Board with adequate administrative and financial powers for the better management of the Ordnance Factories.

(b) The details of the proposal are yet to be finally approved.

ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA BY BRITAIN

267. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has recently resumed arms sale to South Africa; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir. It has made known that it intends to resume arms sale to South Africa.

(b) Government have expressed their strong disapproval of the intended British move to sell arms to South Africa, the effect of which would be to reinforce the racist re-

gime of South Africa, and endanger peace and security in the Indian Ocean region. We have conveyed our serious concern in this regard to the British Government.

C.S.I.R. NATIONAL LABORATORIES

268. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move by Government to bring all national laboratories under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, within the accountability of Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the National Laboratories are already accountable to Government.

(b) The question does not arise.

INDO-FRENCH COOPERATION

269. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India had held any talks recently with the Government of France for political, economical and technological Cooperation between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Official level talks between the Governments of India and France were held between the 3rd and the 6th of July 1970. The talks covered a wide range of topics of mutual interest.

(b) The Joint Press Statement issued at the conclusion of the talks, which gives details of the talks, is being placed on the Table of the House.