

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : Airborne electromagnetic, magnetic and scintillometer survey was carried out over parts of Guntur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore and Khamam districts in Andhra Pradesh between July and November, 1967, covering a total area of about 30,500 sq. kms. which included the old mines of Mailaram, Karempudi, Agnigundala, Jangamara-jupalle, Varikunta and Gani-Kalva. This has shown about 50 major zones of electromagnetic and magnetic anomalies, besides several hundred isolated ones. Reconnaissance ground survey of about 50—60 individual intercepts has been carried out till now.

Airborne survey has given geophysical anomalies in the vicinity of known mineralised zones and in parts where no minerals have been reported, so far : ground follow-up work, which includes electromagnetic and magnetic surveys, detailed geological mapping, geochemical prospecting, photogeological interpretation and techniques, is being undertaken to test these anomalies, some of which are very significant as guides to large mineral deposits.

TRANSIT OF GOODS TO NEPAL THROUGH INDIA

63. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAU-DHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item in the Hindustan Times on 3rd May 1968 based on the news item published in the Nepali paper, 'Mother Land' to the effect that Nepal considers India as bad neighbour in the matter of transit of goods to and from Nepal ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Nepal charged India with not accepting what are called Internal principles regarding transit facilities for land locked Nepal as envisaged in Geneva confra'K ; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c) Some sections of the Press in Nepal

have made allegations of this nature* Our Embassy has issued a detailed statement explaining how the allegations are without any basis. A copy of the Press statement released by the Embassy is attached. {See Appendix LXV, Anne-sure No. 4).

DERAILMENT OF GOODS TRAIN BOUND FOR PILIBHIT

64. SHRI GANESH! LAL CHAU-DHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a goods train bound for Pilibhit derailed on the 29th April, 1968 on the Pilibhit—Shahjahanpur section of the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what were the causes of the accident; and

(c) the extent of the loss suffered by the Railways due to the accident?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Yes.

(b) Prima facie it appears that the accident occurred on account of whirlwind which blinded the driver who for the safety of the train applied the brakes resulting the derailment.

(c) The cost of damage to railway property was estimated at approximately Rs. 3,350.

SITTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PASSENGERS , AT ROURKELA RAILWAY STATION

65. SHRI N. PATRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any arrangements have been made for providing sitting accommodation for the passengers waiting at the Rourkela Railway station on the South Eastern Railway ;

(b) whether it is a fact that wooden cabins kept in the passage are blocking the entrance to the said Railway Station and

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to move the cabins immediately?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes.