

respectively. The number of those prosecuted is not available.]

REQUIREMENT AND PRODUCTION OF ZINC

352. SHRI B.K. KAUL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the annual requirement and production of zinc in the country;

(b) the names of the parts of the country in which zinc ores are located or found; and

(c) whether the ores have been fully explored and the indications regarding their potentiality ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO): (a) The Planning Group on Non-Ferrous Metals constituted by the Government to formulate schemes for the development of metals during the Fourth Plan period has estimated the demand and indigenous production of zinc metal as under :—

(Quantity in tonnes)			
Year	Estimated demand	Estimated production	
1969-70 . .	96,800	38,000	
1970-71 . .	106,500	38,000	
1971-72 . .	117,100	38,000	

(b) and (c) Occurrences of zinc ore deposits have been reported in the following parts of the country which have been examined by the Geological Survey of India and investigations in the promising sectors are in progress :—

	Potential reserves so far estimated
	(in Million tonnes)
1. Rajasthan	
(a) Zawar	56.40
(b) Dariba-Rajpura	40/50
(c) Sawar	Not yet assessed.
(d) Lohakhan	Do.

Potential reserves so far estimated

(In Million tonnes)

2. Gujarat

(a) Ambamata Not yet assessed
(b) Khandia 0.22

3. Madras

(a) Mamandur 0.9

ZINC SMELTER AT VISAKHAPATNAM

353. SHRI B. K. KAUL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that he made a statement before the consultative Committee of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals to the effect that Government propose to set up a Zinc Smelter at Visakhapatnam in collaboration with Poland;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the new plant will be based on imported zinc concentrates and if so, whether raw material from Rajasthan will not have to be transported to Visakhapatnam at any time with a view to feeding the proposed smelter; and

(c) the total foreign exchange involved both in the execution as well as in the running of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The statement was made by the former Minister of Steel, Mines, and Metals. However, due to constraint on resources, the question is being reviewed.

(b) Yes, Sir. Such a contingency (as mentioned in the latter half of part(b) of the question) is not envisaged at present.

(c) As the detailed project report has not yet been prepared, the details regarding the project costs, foreign exchange content etc. are not available.

RAIL LINK BETWEEN TIRUNELVELI AND CAPE COMORIN

354. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :