

(a) whether any official machinery has been set up to maintain a correct record of Pakistani infiltration into Assam and how this machinery works;

(b) whether there are any laws restricting sale or transfer of land by the Assamese under certain circumstances calculated to prevent passing of land into the hands of Pakistanis directly or indirectly; and

(c) if so, what are those laws or regulations and whether those are strictly enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

DEEP SHAFT MINING

*482. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the economics of the deep shaft mining which was under study by the Singareni Collieries Company has been concluded;

(b) if so, the nature of decision arrived at; and

(c) whether the Planning Commission has allotted Rs. 8 crores for raising finillion tonnes of coal by deep shaft mining?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : (a) to (c) The economics of raising one million tons from deep shaft mining has yet to be examined. The Singareni Collieries Company have, however, been made an allocation of Rs. 20 crores in the Third Plan. This includes Rs. 8 crores being the estimated cost of raising one million tons from deep shaft mines.

SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY

*483. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of Rs. 145 lakhs foreign exchange asked for by the Singareni Collieries Company only a sum of Rs. 14-26 lakhs was allotted during the year 1961-62;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange required by the Company for the year 1962-63; and

(c) whether, in view of the shortage of foreign exchange, it is possible for the Company to achieve coal production target of 32 lakh tonnes for the year 1962-63?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) No, Sir. Out of Rs. 145 lakhs of foreign exchange asked for by the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., a sum of Rs. 131-50 lakhs was allocated to the Company during 1961-62.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange required by the Company for the year 1962-63 as estimated by it is Rs. 842-15 lakhs against which foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 175-75 lakhs for the period April-September 1962 has already been allocated.

(c) The Company has assured the Government that they would be able to fulfil its target of production of 32 lakh tonnes during 1962-63.

CENTRE'S CONTRIBUTION IN EXPENDITURE ON NATURAL CALAMITIES

*484. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that originally the Government of India used to bear half of the expenditure which the States incurred on account of natural calamities, particularly floods and earth-quakes;

(b) if so, whether these rules have been modified and now the Union Government propose to contribute 50 per cent of such expenditure only after the States have spent the total fund set apart for such purposes;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government of Assam has represented that the original rules in this respect be retained; and

(e) if so, what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) to (e) A statement furnishing the information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT Under the pattern of assistance which was effective from 1954-55, State Governments were given as grant:

- (i) 50 per cent of the expenditure up to Rs. 2 crores and 75 per cent of the expenditure in excess thereof on certain specified items of gratuitous relief,
- (ii) 50 per cent, of the expenditure on repairs to damaged Government properties, and
- (iii) 37½ per cent, of the expenditure on repairs to local bodies* properties.

Besides, loans were also given depending on the ways and means position of the States, etc. This pattern was revised with effect from 1961-62, and under the new pattern the State Governments are given grants to the extent of 50 per cent, of the expenditure on certain specified items of gratuitous relief. 'Ad hoc' assistance is also considered, if the calamity is of very high magnitude. Loans are also given on the basis of ways and means position.

With effect from 1957-58, in accordance with the recommendations contained in para 184 of the Report of the Second Finance Commission, (and para 17 of the Report of the Third Finance Commission,) the margins prescribed for each State Government as contributions for the famine relief fund, are adjusted while calcu-

lating Central assistance to States. The Government of Assam had, represented that while calculating the Central assistance for the years 1957-58 and 1958-59, the State Government's annual contribution to the famine relief fund should not be adjusted against the Central Government's share as a special case. The State Government's request was not agreed to as it would have meant invidious distinction between States.

PURCHASE OF GENERATOR SETS BY SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY

*485. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries Company has been permitted to purchase package generator sets of a total capacity of 18,000/20,000 kws;

(b) if so, what is the value of the same; and

(c) from which country they are going to be obtained and by when they are likely to be delivered?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : (a) To meet the shortage of power the Singareni Collieries Company propose to purchase package sets. •

(b) The total value has been estimated at Rs. 2.5 crores.

(c) In response to an enquiry issued by the Company tenders have been received from various countries which are under scrutiny.

LACK OF SECURITY OF LIFE AND PROPERTY OF EMPLOYEES OF HINDUSTAN STEEL LIMITED AT ROURKELA

♦486. SHRI DHANANJOY MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report regarding the lack of security to the life and property of Hindustan Steel Limited employees at Rourkela; and