

almost nothing as compared with the imports that we are getting, which run from 75,000 cwts. to 85,000 cwts.

श्री किशोरी राम : इस समय कितने कारखाने टिन का उत्पादन कर रहे हैं ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मैंने बताया कि बिहार में तीन कारखाने टिन का उत्पादन कर रहे हैं ।

श्री किशोरी राम : बिहार के अलावा ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : और जानकारी मेरे पास इस समय नहीं है ।

SHRI T. BODRA: May I know if a mountain which is about 35 miles to the east of Ranchi near Kita village has been prospected and tin ore has been discovered in this area?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir. In the Ranchi District, there are many places where tin is being searched for. For instance, one area is the Paharsingh Hill which is perhaps what the hon. Member means. Besides this Paharsingh Hill area, in the nearabout places we are searching for tin. Probably, at one place, if I am speaking correctly from memory, prospecting is also going on.

श्री किशोरी राम : क्या गया डिस्ट्रिक्ट में टिन का कारखाना खोलने का काम शुरू कर दिया गया है या नहीं ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : गया के टिन के कारखाने में उत्पादन का काम हो रहा है या नहीं, इसके बारे में ठीक से नहीं कह सकता हूँ ।

'STEPS TAKEN TO PURCHASE GOLD FROM THE PEOPLE

*138. **SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to secure gold from the

people by purchasing it in the open market and if so, what are those steps;

(b) how this gold will be utilised; and

(c) what is the quantity of gold likely to be purchased in the next five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether this scheme was mentioned by the hon. Prime Minister as one of the important features, and he hoped that the Finance Ministry would be taking it up?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Yes, Sir. But it has not made much progress in that direction.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, what additional facilities have been provided in the Reserve Bank for people to get loans on gold and other jewellery?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, it is not a point about gold loan. The people who want loan on gold from any banking institution can get it. But the bank in valuing this gold is bound by the gold price. The price fixed by the International Monetary Fund is that the value of the gold will only be Rs. 62½, whereas as hon. Members know, the market price is considerably in excess of it, and is going up and coming down. That is our principal difficulty in regard to processing further the idea that was put out by the Prime Minister.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if there is any scheme with the Finance Ministry to acquire more gold from the people and put it as a reserve against the currency which may be inflated later on?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Well, Sir, any question of acquiring gold is up against this proposition. Now the position is that the gold price of the rupee and the gold price ruling in the market do not tally, nor can it be said that the price ruling in the market is at all a healthy price and it is a correct indication of the value of the rupee, because that is a speculative price on which no conclusions could be drawn. It is for this reason that we cannot proceed further in this matter.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have got any estimate of the gold now used as ornaments and the quantity which is hoarded by the people?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I should plead complete ignorance.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Some time back, Sir, the Finance Minister wanted the jewellery from women. May I know whether he wanted to purchase it from them or he wanted it as a free gift from them?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I am afraid my friend at that time probably did not understand it correctly. I said, if I wanted it, I will get a response. I never said I wanted it.

CORPORATION FOR DELHI

***139. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state when the Corporation for Delhi is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): It is proposed to introduce the Bill providing for the setting up of a Municipal Corporation in Delhi in the next session of Parliament. The Corporation will start functioning after the necessary legislation has been passed by Parlia-

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ment and the preliminary arrangements are completed.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if the Government has come to any decision with regard to the number of members to be elected by the people and to be nominated, and whether all interests would be represented on the Corporation?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, the broad features of this Bill then under consideration were given during the debate on the States Reorganisation Bill. I should request the hon. Member to wait for some time till the Bill has been finalised.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि सारी दिल्ली का इसमें समावेश हो जायगा ? दूसरा सवाल यह है कि क्या इसका माडल बम्बई कांर्पोरेशन मरेखा होगा और सरकारी नौकरो को कांर्पोरेशन एलाउंस मिलेगा ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, all these details will be clear when the Bill is ready.

CONSTITUENCIES OF THE LAST GENERAL ELECTIONS

***140. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister for LAW be pleased to state:

(a) the number of constituencies where elections for State Assemblies and Lok Sabha were held this year;

(b) the number of candidates who participated in these elections;

(c) the number of election petitions so far preferred; and

(d) the number of nomination papers rejected by the various Returning Officers?

THE MINISTER FOR LAW (SHRI A. K. SEN): (a) Elections for State Assemblies were held in 2517 consti-