

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, 3rd September 1956

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PYRITES DEPOSITS IN INDIA

*480. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state the places where deposits of Pyrites are found and the estimated quantity of those deposits at each of those places?

THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : Deposits of pyrites are widespread in India. The more important places are given below :—

- (1) The Amjor deposits in Shahbad district, Bihar.
- (2) The Taradevi, Rampur and Bushahar deposits in Simla Hills.
- (3) The Ingaldhal deposits near Chitaldrug, Mysore.
- (4) The Devala deposits. Wynad, Madras.
- (5) Lashitial deposits, Kashmir.
- (6) Karwar deposits. N. Kanara, Bombay.

Only parts of the above mentioned deposits have been prospected and the following are the estimates of reserves proved in the prospected areas :—

	Tons
(1) Amjor . . .	50,000
(2) Taradevi . . .	1,25,000- 1,60,000
(3) Ingaldhal . . .	500,000
(4) Devala . . .	200,000
(5) Lashitial . . .	150,000
(6) Karwar . . .	500 (does not hold commercial promise.)

SHRI M. VALIULLA : May I know why is it that no plants are set up to produce sulphuric acid from this pyrites?

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SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : This is mostly in the hands of the private sector which finds it more economical and convenient to produce sulphuric acid from free sulphur. Extraction of sulphur from pyrites and then using it for the manufacture of sulphuric acid is rather a cumbersome method. But Government have always been trying to persuade the private sector to use pyrites to produce sulphuric acid and we hope our advice will be accepted by the private sector.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : May I know, Sir, in what particular respect this persuasion is going on?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : This is a matter for the Commerce and Industry Ministry to say so far as these details are concerned. But so far as I remember, some time back, the Commerce and Industry Ministry took up this matter with individuals and promised some sort of general help to those people who could switch on from free sulphur to sulphur from pyrites for making sulphuric acid.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, in view of the large deposits at Ingaldhal, whether Government have any plan for extending the exploitation of the deposits at Ingaldhal now?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I am not aware of any just now.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : In view of the large deposits at Ingaldhal—in fact it is the largest deposit—does not the Government consider it necessary to set up a plant there for their exploitation?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I think it is desirable to use the pyrites found in Ingaldhal. I will pass on that suggestion to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA : They were going on with the exploitation of the pyrites to some extent for experimental purposes, but laterly I was told that it was stopped. I would like to know whether they have resumed the

work in the mines in Ingaldhal in Chitaldrug district?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I think mining is going on for pyrites, but there is not much use for that pyrites because of lack of enthusiasm on the part of the private sector to use that pyrites for the manufacturing of sulphuric acid. But I will pass on the information to the Ministry concerned to see that this policy is pursued.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA : Is it merely enough if the information is passed on? To whom is the hon. Minister going to pass it on if they do not feel like taking to exploitation themselves?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : The difficulty is because this is a process of persuasion. It is not a process of compulsion. You cannot compel the private sector to switch off from one aspect and switch on to another aspect of the thing. This is not the type of government which can do it. Therefore, we have got to depend on our capacity to persuade the private sector to take it up. Of course, the alternative is to do it ourselves, but then there are other important things of higher priority.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA : Of course, we know pyrites in the beginning may not interest private enterprise. But then is it not obligatory under these circumstances, for the Central Government and the State Governments to combine and to develop the thing on their own accord ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : We have been persuading the State Governments to take this attitude. Sir, and we are taking steps.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND : Is it not a fact that in the eastern part of Hyderabad near Bastar there are plenty of deposits of pyrites and a Government sponsored factory was set up there to utilise the pyrites for the manufacture of sulphuric acid?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I am not aware of it just now.

*481. [For answer see col. 3087 *infra*.]

REQUEST FOR GRANT BY THE ASIATIC SOCIETY, CALCUTTA

*482. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request for additional grant from the Asiatic Society, Calcutta;

(b) whether any scheme for the utilisation of the above grant has also been submitted by the Society, if so what are the main features of that scheme and

(c) what decision Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir, main features of the schemes are given in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XIV Annexure No. 76.]

(c) Request for additional maintenance grant of Rs. 5,000 for 1955-56 has not been accepted. Full details of other schemes for which grant was required are awaited from the Society.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know whether a decision has been taken as regards the request for grants of Rs. 62,000 and Rs. 98,000 recurring and Rs. 90,000 non-recurring?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI : No.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know what is the reason for not taking any decision on this matter?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI : The Society submitted only tentative schemes and we have asked them to furnish details of these schemes.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know when exactly the Society submitted these schemes?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI : I cannot tell the exact date; but the society wrote to us that these schemes are only tentative and details will be furnished later. And later on, our Deputy Educational Adviser also went there and visited