

COUNCIL OF STATES

Tuesday, 15th September 1953.

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXPORT AND RESERVES OF IRON ORE

*322. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which Indian iron ore is being exported and;

(b) what is India's reserve of iron ore in the mines that are being worked out?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany West, Japan, Italy, Netherlands, U.S.A., Free Territory of Trieste, Austria, Roumania, Hungary and U. K.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Council, when received.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether the countries that take our iron ore are the same as those that take our iron scrap?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: This question can be answered by the Commerce Ministry.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Have you found out any method by which lower grade iron ore is made profitably usable?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir our country is very rich in iron ore. The quantity of iron ore containing 50 per cent. and over of iron is roughly estimated to be about twenty thousand million tons. So we are not worried just now about exploiting the lower-content iron ore.

84 C. S. D.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The hon. Minister gave out the figure of iron ore just now. What was the figure just now given?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said 'twenty million tons'.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Then why was it not answered in reply to my question (b)?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The question put was regarding the detailed prospects of iron ore in the mines that are being worked and I have given a rough estimate of the total iron ore and the potential of the country. There are many mines which may be worked. The mines that are being worked are at Singhbhum, Drug, Chanda, Balaidala, Raughat, Mysore, Salem, and Sandur and from the rough figures that we have got from these, the deposits are estimated to be more than ten thousand million tons.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that Japan is willing to enter into a long-term arrangement with India for developing this iron ore?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am afraid I cannot answer that question.

SELECTION OF PERSONNEL FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORCE BY THE SERVICES SELECTION BOARD.

*323. SHRI RAHMATHULLAH: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Services Selection Board selected persons to the commissioned rank of the Equipment Branch of the Indian Air Force early in 1952;

(b) whether the selection was on an all-India basis;

(c) whether there were any applications from South India; if so, how many;

(d) the number of candidates selected for final interview and the States to which they belong; and

(e) the number of candidates that were finally selected and the States to which they belong?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes; 97.

(d) 102 candidates were selected for final interview as under—

PEPSU	1
Madras	11
Travancore-Cochin	3
Mysore	5
Bombay	15
U. P.	33
Rajasthan	2
Punjab	8
Madhya Pradesh	4
Saurashtra	1
West Bengal	3
Bihar	3
Ajmer	2
Orissa	2
Delhi	6
Vindhya Pradesh	1
Madhya Bharat	2
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TOTAL ...	102

(e) The following 18 candidates were finally selected for training—

U. P.	8
Punjab	3
Bombay	2
South India (Mysore)	2
Madhya Bharat	1
Delhi	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
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TOTAL ...	18

SHRI RAHMATHULLAH: Of the 11 candidates selected for final interview how many were actually selected for training?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Of the 11 candidates called for interview from Madras, only two were selected. Actually three were selected but of these one was medically unfit and therefore only two were selected for training.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What was the order of merit before the interview and what was the order of merit after the interview?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have not got the details.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: To which State or States in South India did these two successful candidates belong?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Mysore.

DR. P. C. MITRA: How many candidates appeared at this interview?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: There were about 290.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Were all the unsuccessful candidates found medically unfit?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: No, Sir. I would like to explain the position. There were only 18 vacancies and we only required 18 people and therefore we selected the best 18.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Is there any security deposit demanded from the candidates?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I am not sure, but except for a small fee which is charged from every candidate who appears before the Board, for the medical fee and for messing, etc. there is nothing else.

SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY: May I know, Sir, whether there were any Gurkha candidates for commissions in the Indian Air Force and if so what is their number?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I am afraid, Sir, I have not got the candidates shown according to communities. I only have got the figures State-wise.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: Out of the 96 applicants from South India how many were given interviews?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I may say that it is there in the answer. It is Madras 11; Travancore-Cochin 3 and Mysore 5.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: The hon. Minister said that in the final selection there were only two from South India. I want to know which are the States included in South India?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said that the two successful candidates belonged to Mysore. 'South India' means Travancore-Cochin, Mysore and Madras.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: May I know why those candidates who were selected from Travancore-Cochin were finally rejected?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Several were rejected finally.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have already said that there were quite a number of candidates rejected. As we had to pick only 18 we only picked the best naturally the others were not taken.

*324 and *325. [The questioner (Shri H. C. Mathur) was absent.]

LOAN FOR ANDHRA STATE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ITS CAPITAL BUILDINGS

*326. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to make an advance of Rs. 10 crores as a loan and Rs. 3 crores as a grant to Andhra State for the construction of its capital buildings;

(b) if so, the rate of interest that will be charged on the proposed loan of Rs. 10 crores;

(c) whether the return from the capital buildings will be sufficient to

amortise the loan taken for the purpose; and

(d) whether the grant of Rs. 3 crores is to be booked to revenue or to capital account in the Central books?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) No, Sir.

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

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: In that case will the hon. Minister be pleased to inform us that the statements of the Home Minister made on the floor of this House and the other House had no substance in them regarding this matter?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I do not think I shall be in a position to reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is Finance man.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I ask, Sir, whether they have decided to make an advance?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says no decision has been made.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Has the decision been taken that no advance will be made?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: No, Sir. To the question "whether Government have decided to make an advance of Rs. 10 crores as a loan and Rs. 3 crores as a grant for the construction of Andhra's capital buildings" I have said "No Sir."

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: If not that amount, how much is it?

(No reply.)

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: I want to know whether any loan has been sanctioned at least for the temporary capital and for the construction of other buildings?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: We have given a loan of Rs. 40 lakhs to the Madras State for the emergency capital for Andhra, the liability for which to the