

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know whether proper surveys have been made for locating deposits of zinc in the country ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Yes, we have made the surveys.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : In the South also ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Some of the deposits are not of economic importance. But surveys have been made in Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Madras also.

SHRI KRISHNA MOORTHY RAO : Have the resources been exploited ; and, if so, what is our production of zinc ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : So far, the processing is not done in our country. The ore is pulverised, crushed and separated through floating mills. We export the zinc concentrates under certain conditions, that is to say, about 55 per cent. processed zinc, if I remember aright, should come back. I may inform the House, with your permission, Sir, that a sub-committee has been appointed by the Government which has submitted a report and they have strongly recommended the starting of a smelting factory here.

PRODUCTION IN ORDNANCE FACTORIES

*43. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the materials, other than war materials, which the ordnance factories in India are producing ; and

(b) whether any such materials are being exported to foreign countries to earn dollars or sterlings ; if so, what are the earnings ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA) :
(a) Presumably by "war materials" the hon. Member means stores produced

by the ordnance factories for the Defence Services. If so, the total value of materials other than "war materials" produced in the ordnance factories during the 12 months from April 1951 to March 1952 was Rs. 1.09 crores.

(b) No.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : May I know the materials that are produced other than war materials ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Plenty of other materials ; for instance, all the materials required for the Defence Services other than munitions are produced.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will you name one or two ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Clothing.

PROF. G. RANGA : Beautiful !

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Are you in any way thinking of producing some other things apart from these that you are producing now ? Have you got a plan to produce other varieties ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : We are producing quite a lot.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : क्या ये आर्डनेंस फैक्ट्रीज़ जितना माल उत्पन्न कर सकती हैं उतना कर रही हैं ?

†[SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : Are these ordnance factories producing material up to their full capacity ?]

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : They are producing not up to the full capacity because we cannot consume that over here. It is also true that we do take orders from outside. The first preference naturally goes to the Government Departments.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : इस देश की सिविल पापुलेशन के लिये कितना माल बना कर के ये आर्डनेंस फैक्ट्रीज़ बेच रही हैं ?

†[SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : What amount of material is being prepared and sold by these ordnance factories to the civil population ?]

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : I am afraid, Sir, I have not got this with me ; but if the hon. Member is interested, I shall certainly pass that on to him.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : क्या मैं समझूँ कि आंकड़े माननीय मंत्री महोदय के पास मौजूद नहीं हैं लेकिन यह बात सत्य है कि आर्डनेंस फैक्ट्रीज़ या मिलें कुछ माल अवश्य बनाती हैं जो कि वे सिविल पापुलेशन के लिये बेचती हैं ? यदि यह बात सत्य है तो यह माल बेचने के लिये क्या प्रबन्ध है ?

†[SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : May I take it that the hon. Minister has got no figures with him, but it is true that the ordnance factories or mills are decidedly preparing some material, which they sell to the civil population ? If so, what is the arrangement for the disposal of the material ?]

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : It is true, Sir, that the material is passed over for civilian consumption but the figures are not with me at the moment and as I have said, if the hon. member is interested, I shall pass that on.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Have any ordnance factories been closed recently ? If so, how many and where ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : None, Sir.

SHRI B. GUPTA : With regard to (b), is it not a fact that certain agencies in India are making some purchases of such materials for the Government of Malaya ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : No, Sir, that is not a fact.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS

*44. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places at which Public Relations Officers have been appointed to assist the public in paying their taxes and obtaining such relief as they may be entitled to ;

(b) whether these officers are generally recruited from the Income-tax Department ; and

(c) the total amount of taxes collected by Government with the assistance of these officers ?

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : (a) Public Relations Officer has been appointed in the Income-tax Department at Calcutta only.

(b) Yes ; from among serving or retired officers of the Department.

(c) As the designation implies, the essential function of these officers is to offer technical advice and help to the taxpayer in matters pertaining to Income-tax, and to secure his co-operation in fulfilling his obligations under the law. They are not concerned in the actual collection of income-tax.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Have they been helping the people to give the proper taxes to the Government ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : It is not their function but, during the course of their duties if any such case comes across where an assessee is trying to hide his income, they naturally advise him to pay.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Are these officers recruited from the regular cadre of the Income-tax Department or have they been recruited from outside ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : I am sorry, Sir, even the one we had appointed at Calcutta has now gone away. He was a retired officer. The Income-tax