

made to step up production in the cement factories?

Mr. Speaker: Not a general question.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सीमेंट की कमी नहीं है। अपने अनुभव से हम देखते हैं कि सीमेंट मिलता नहीं है। तो क्या सरकार...

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जनरल क्वेश्चन है।

Oil in Cauvery Basin

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- *85. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken to intensify the drilling operation on the Cauvery Basin to find out natural oil;

(b) whether any experts have been appointed for this work; and

(c) if not, whether any offer from abroad has been obtained to carry out this work?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) It is proposed to drill a few structural holes to a depth of 1,200 metres for obtaining Stratigraphic information. Work is expected to commence early in 1963. The question of intensified drilling does not arise at present.

(b) Yes, Sir. Expert Indian Geologists and Drillers have been allocated for this work.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what sort of drilling is at present being done?

Shri Thimmaiah: Seismic and other surveys are being conducted for finding out the structures suitable for

accumulation of hydro carbons. If that is found out, drilling will be intensified.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the preliminary data in this field are indicative of any decision for intensified drilling in the area?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): Without getting any such indication, drilling operations are generally not undertaken.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: I want to know whether the preliminary data....

Shri Hajarnavis: The first is geological survey. The second is gravite-magnetic survey. Then there is seismic survey. If all these factors are favourable, then alone we undertake heavy expenditure in drilling.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the upper Cauvery basin in the State of Mysore will come within the purview of this survey?

Shri Thimmaiah: This will be answered in some other question.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Standard Rate for Gold

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- *86. { **Shri S. B. Das:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Kajrolkar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to fix a standard rate for gold throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether this proposal is finalised; and

(c) by what time this will be enforced?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Proposals regarding Government's