

relief works. All that is possible will be done.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Closure of Kolar Gold Mines

- *515. {
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Gulshan:
 Shri Buta Singh:
 Shri Kapur Singh:
 Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Bade:
 Shri U. M. Trivedi:
 Shri Warrior:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri Eswara Reddy:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
 Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to high cost of production Government are considering some proposal to close down Kolar Gold Mines; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No; Sir. However, a Sub-Committee with the Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat) as Chairman has been constituted to suggest measures to reduce the high cost of production of gold.

(b) Does not arise.

Nutritional needs of Industrial Labour

*516. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific study has been made or is proposed to be made of the minimum nutritional needs of industrial labourers in various regions of the country:

(b) whether an attempt has also been made to link the nutritional needs with the food habits in the respective regions and the price index of food-stuffs; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House, [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1653/63].

Gold Refinery at Madras

*517. **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Government have requested the Central Government to give financial assistance to start a refinery for manufacture of 14 ct. gold; and

(b) if so, the cost of the scheme and the quantity of 14 ct. gold to be produced in this refinery?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) Yes.

(b) The scheme is expected to cost Rs. 4 lakhs. It is not possible to estimate at this stage, the quantity of 14 carat gold which may be produced by this refinery.

Refugees in Sealdah Station

*518. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new decisions were taken in the recent conference he had with Chief Minister, Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation and the Finance Minister of West Bengal on the 16th July, 1963 at Calcutta about clearing the Sealdah Station of refugee quatters and rehabilitating them elsewhere; and

(b) the help, financial or otherwise, promised by the Union Government towards the solution of problem of Sealdah refugee squatters?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) The matter was informally discussed between the Chief Minister and the Finance Minister of West Bengal and the Minister for Works, Housing and Rehabilitation at Calcutta on the 16th July, 1963. It was felt that the Sealdah Station should be cleared of the squatters and no one allowed to re-squat.

(b) The question of removal of the squatters from the Station is mainly a matter to be tackled by the State Government.

Rajasthan Canal

***519. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:** Will Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 158 on the 28th February, 1963 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal to make Rajasthan Canal navigable; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) The proposal is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Cancer

***520. Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether radio-active cobalt bombs for treatment of cancer are being imported for use in hospitals in this country;

(b) if so, from which source they are coming and at what cost; and

(c) in which of the hospitals they are being used and with what result?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayyar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1654/63].

Electric Power Survey

***521. Shri M. Rampure:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's electric power survey conducted by the International experts has been completed; and

(b) if so, their main findings?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The Electric Power Survey Committee has so far completed the first annual load survey of the country and also made some interim recommendations. Copies of this report are made available in the library. According to the Committee the load demand in the country in 1965-66 would be 8,264 MW. The installed generating capacity by the end of 1965-66 is expected to 12,500 MW.

The important interim recommendations are:

(i) The annual load survey should be a permanent feature, to be organised and directed by the Central Water and Power Commission.

(ii) The programme for the IV Plan should be finalised and the schemes approved urgently.

(iii) A survey should be conducted in regard to the requirements of skilled manpower for construction, operation and maintenance of power systems.

(iv) A coordinated approach on the part of all the authorities concerned should be evolved to tackle the problems of raw materials and equipment and the procedures for obtaining these should be simplified.

(v) Regional power grids should be brought into being very early for effective planning, development and coordination of future generating and transmission capacity.