

under the Ministry of Mines and Metals can be enabled to run efficiently and we are taking all steps possible.

Shri Kapur Singh: He has answered some other question, not the question I put.

Shri S. K. Dey: Efficiency means profit, without profit there can be no efficiency.

Shri Kapur Singh: I said nothing about efficiency, I said nothing about profit.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what safeguards have been taken so that the diamonds which are expected do not go surreptitiously into the pockets of those who dig for them and also into the pockets of those who are running this corporation?

Shri S. K. Dey: I suppose that every action that need be taken to protect the interests of Government is taken in every such enterprise including gold mining or diamond mining.

Aluminium Smelting Plant in Gujarat

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- *1131. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Man Singh P. Patel:

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

(a) whether it is proposed to set up an Aluminium Smelting Plant in Gujarat based on the bauxite deposits of Kutch;

(b) if so, whether this will be done by the Central or the State Government;

(c) whether the details of the project have been worked out; and

(d) if so, the estimated cost and capacity of the plant?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Metals (Shri S. A.

Mehdi): (a) and (b). An application for establishing an Alumina plant has been received from the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation, a State Government undertaking. Another application from a private party has been received for the establishment of an aluminium smelter.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Firm estimates of costs are not available. The capacities proposed are:

- (i) 2,00,000 tonnes per annum alumina; and
 (ii) 50,000 tonnes per annum aluminium metal.

Shri Subodh Hansda: I would like to know when these applications were received by the Government and whether in the applications they have received they have asked for any consultancy services from the Government or from outside?

Shri Mehdi: This application was received only last year, and it is under consideration, as I have said, and the question of consultation will arise later on.

Shri Subodh Hansda: As a large number of aluminium smelting plants are going to be raised in our country, I would like to know whether there is any attempt on the part of the Government to develop these consultancy services so that we do not require consultancy services from other countries?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): It will be done. As the House is aware, there is also a public sector enterprise known as Bharat Aluminium which has already been brought into being, and we are trying to set up two aluminium smelters, one at Koyna and another at Korba. Once we begin operations, we shall have consultancy services of our own which we shall also make available to any one who wants consultancy services.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many applications from the private sector were received and whether the location mentioned by them coincides with the location by the State Governments?

Shri S. K. Dey: I presume that the question relates only to the deposits in Gujarat. I would say that there was an application received from the J.K. Industries who have been given a letter of intent to set up an aluminium smelter in Kerala. They expected to base that smelter on the raw alumina produced in Gujarat or raw bauxite secured from Gujarat for being converted into alumina and then into aluminium in Kerala, but there has been some difficulty because the Gujarat Government have decided to operate the alumina plant on their own.

May I also add that there has been a supplementary application received from the Power Cable Co., of Bombay for an aluminium smelter in Gujarat based on the alumina produced by the Gujarat Corporation?

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the various applications and supplementary applications that have been received indicate any idea of any survey either undertaken by these parties or by the Central Government or by the State Government about the quantity of bauxite deposit of Gujarat or other raw materials to which the hon. Member has referred?

Shri S. K. Dey: There has already been considerable survey done and on the basis of the survey it has been found that the ores located so far can offer six million tons of bauxite with 57—61 per cent of alumina. That is enough to supply and serve an alumina plant of about 100,000 tons per year capacity.

Shri P. C. Borooah: What is the present gap between the availability and requirement of alumina in the country and to what extent will our

dependence on imports be eliminated on completion of this plant?

Shri Mehal: The present production is about 88,000 tons and after all these projects are completed, we expect that there will be 423,000 tons. I think that would be more than the estimated demand.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि एलुमिनियम पिघलाने का कारखाना स्थापित करने के जो आवेदन पत्र सरकार को प्राप्त हुए हैं, वे विचाराधीन हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बारे में सरकार अन्तिम फैसला कब तक ले लेगी ?

Shri S. K. Dey: We have to receive some further information from the Gujarat government based on further technical study and as soon as we receive it we shall take a decision.

Shri Man Singh P. Patel: In view of the hon. Minister's reply, looking to the many other products available from the raw products of bauxite and alumina in Gujarat State, what is the policy of Government—to allow the raw products to be utilised in the local area by a public undertaking or to allot it to any outsider and private enterprise?

Shri S. K. Dey: It will depend upon the capacity of the Government to finance and therefore we shall take an overall view later.

श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह : मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर और पब्लिक सेक्टर, गवर्नमेंट, की तरफ से जो एप्लिकेशन्स आई हैं, उनके बारे में क्लियर निर्णय कब तक लिया जायेगा और अगर गवर्नमेंट इस काम को करना चाहती है, तो फ़िनांसिङ के बारे में गवर्नमेंट का क्या व्यू रहेगा।

Shri S. K. Dey: It is difficult at this point of time to take a final view as to the financial requirements in the Fourth Plan. I hope the House will bear with us for a few more months before we get clear as to what we can have.

Shri Shivananajappa: May I know whether there is any proposal to start an alumina factory in Gujarat?

Mr. Speaker: We are now dealing with Gujarat.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Keeping in view the paucity of non-ferrous metal in the country today and also the policy that is adopted with regard to import substitution and the fact that alumina would be a good substitute for copper especially for copper conductors which came up in the debate on demands of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, what steps are afoot to make alumina available in sufficient quantities in order to meet the demand in the country?

Shri S. K. Dey: That is exactly what is being done. There has been considerable alumina substitution for copper in electrical undertakings.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether proper production planning has been done in order to save alumina for technical purposes instead of utensils and other purposes which are not so important?

Shri S. K. Dey: I think when planning is done by the Ministry of Industries and also the Ministry of Supply and Technical Development, they take all these into full consideration as to what should go for essential services and what should go for what can be called relatively non-essential services.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्या, श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह, के प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है। उन्होंने पूछा था कि इस बारे में जो दरखास्तें आई हैं, उनके बारे में फैसला कब तक होगा। इसके जवाब में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के पास फिनांसिज नहीं हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब सरकार किसी योजना आदि के बारे में जांच-पड़ताल शुरू कराती है, तो उससे पहले क्या वह इस बात का ख्याल रखती है या नहीं

कि उसके पास पैसा और साधन हैं या नहीं, अगर सरकार के पास सब साधन हैं, तो उनसे काम करने में क्या रुकावट है और अगर नहीं हैं, तो फिर उसको इतनी दर-खास्तें मांगने की क्या जरूरत हुई।

Shri S. K. Dey: We have not invited any applications. Applications continue coming to the centre.

Shri Kapur Singh: I want to know whether these bauxite deposits are found in areas of Kutch disputed by Pakistan as hers?

Shri S. K. Dey: I have no such knowledge.

Export of Electrical Goods

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*1132. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Electrical Manufacturers Association in their Annual General Meeting held in New Delhi recently, discussed and evolved a scheme to increase production, improve quality and boost up exports of electrical goods;

(b) if so, the nature of the decisions taken in this regard; and

(c) what aid, if any, Government was called upon to render in this respect?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Shri Bibhudhendra Misra): (a) Yes, Sir. A number of points were made by the Chairman in his speech at the Annual General Meeting held at New Delhi in December, 1965.

(b) Government is not aware of any decisions taken at that meeting.

(c) It was said that the Association would follow up its proposals with Government authorities. No such