

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने बतलाया तो कि नहीं किया गया है ।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : क्या गवर्नमेंट यह बतलाने की कृपा करेगी कि प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने आर्थिक बेसिस पर बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के क्लासिफिकेशन करने के बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

Shri Datar: It is for the State Governments to accept the advice or to continue the criterion as it is at present.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Government have any idea about the percentage of the population whose income is less than Rs. 1,200 per year?

Shri Datar: We have no need to work it out.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether this action of Government is in consonance with the recommendations of the Backward Classes Commission?

Shri Datar: I have already pointed out that the recommendations of the Backward Classes Commission were entirely of an inconclusive nature. We also submitted a memorandum in that respect. Therefore, Government had to consider the whole matter.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: Are Government aware that even the economic criterion is fraught with danger?

Shri Datar: It is being worked out in respect of one subject in Maharashtra and Gujarat. Let us see how it works.

Iron Ore in Madras

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*842. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Shri Sezhiyan:
Shri Balakrishnan:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that iron ore has been found in Karaikudi in Ramnad district of Madras State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) and (b). On examination by the Geological Survey of India only low grade lateritic iron ore was found at about ten to twelve kilometres from Karaikudi town. Recovery of iron from this ore is not considered to be economical.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What is the percentage of the content of iron in the ore in this area?

Shri Thimmaiah: The percentage in this area is not calculated. But it is felt by the Geological Survey that the recovery of iron ore from this area is not economical, and the lateritic ores could not be used.

Mr. Speaker: He cannot give the proportion of the content.

Coal Deposits in Orissa

*844. **Shri Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the biggest concentrated coal deposits in the world have been found in the Orissa State;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive report has been submitted to Government; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to start mining operations in that area?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir, but a report on the final phase of Exploratory Operations in Talcher coalfield has been received from the Indian Bureau of Mines in October, 1961.

(c) Three new coal mines have been planned for exploiting these reserves.