

Rare Diamond in Panna Mine

- *278. { **Shri Mohan Swarup:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri R. S. Tiwari:
Shri N. M. Deb:

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

(a) whether a rare diamond has been found in a mine in Panna District in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the quality and in what quantity this diamond is extracted from the mines of Panna; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to start diamond industry in the country as a result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). A few good quality gem diamonds were recovered from Mahuadola and Baram Ki Khuiya mines in Panna District during the period August, 1960 to October, 1960. A statement is laid on the table of the House giving the weight and estimated value of the diamonds recovered. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 73.]

(c) Some of the diamond bearing areas in Madhya Pradesh are already being prospected by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, a Government of India undertaking, with a view to exploit the deposits in a scientific manner.

Air Accident Near Moga

- *279. { **Shri Ramji Verma:**
Shri Assar:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Indian Air Force plane caught fire over Moga on or about the 18th September, 1960;

(b) whether it is a fact that another I.A.F. aircraft, a Vampire jet, also

crashed near Hakimpet Military Airport on the 19th September, 1960;

(c) if so, how many persons died in these accidents;

(d) the causes of these accidents;

(e) have Government taken any steps to check such accidents; and

(f) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) One aircraft crashed two miles from Moga on 20th September 1960 but it did not catch fire in the air.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Two pilots.

(d) to (f). The causes are being investigated by Courts of Inquiry appointed for the purpose. Their report will be carefully considered and necessary action taken thereon.

Cost of Production of Pig Iron and Steel

- *280. { **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Morarka:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Damani:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:

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

(a) whether it has been found possible to work out the cost of production of pig iron and steel in the three Steel Plants of Hindustan Steel Limited;

(b) if so, what is the cost for the three plants separately; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the specific reasons why the cost of production has not been known till now?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The three steel projects are still in early stages of production. In