

क्या और भी खोज हो रही है कि गंधक कहाँ कहाँ है और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ ऐसी कार्यवाही की जाने वाली है कि हमारे देश में हम को बाहर से गंधक न मंगाना पड़े ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वही आजकल हमारी कोशिश हो रही है क्योंकि सल्फर इतना स्ट्रैटजिक मैटीरियल है कि शांति के समय और आपत्तिकाल अर्थात् युद्धकाल में वह हमारे लिये बहुत उपयोगी वस्तु है और काम में आने वाला पदार्थ है। मैसूर में भी उस की तलाश की जा रही है, आसाम में भी तलाश की जा रही है और मध्य प्रदेश में भी तलाश की जा रही है।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या जबलपुर में नहीं है ?

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has stated that sulphur will help the Sindri Fertilizers. May I know if the use of gypsum which it is taking from Rajasthan will be completely stopped?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. There is always a scheme for expansion of these plants and the present resources need not be disturbed. This will augment the national requirements.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the discovery of this abundant supply of sulphur will lead to the reduction in price of fertilisers?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It may not consequentially lead to that because, as the House knows, natural deposits of sulphur throughout the world are so stupendous that the mining cost is rather less. Here what we have located is a combined sulphur iron pyrites which is a bit difficult to process. That is more expensive. The prices may equate if not be lower than the international price.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What is the sulphur requirement of India and the quantity that we are importing at present? When will we be self-sufficient?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have just now answered that question in detail.

श्रेष्ठ बच्चल सिंह : सल्फर पाइरेट्स में प्योर सल्फर का कितना परसेंटेज होता है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं ने अभी बताने की कोशिश की है कि पहली बैरायटी में ४० प्रतिशत सल्फर है, दूसरी बैरायटी में ३८ प्रतिशत और आम तौर पर ३० परसेंट है।

Land Routes to Goa

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Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Nardeo Snatak:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:
Shri Achar:
Shri Assar:
*455. Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri Hem Barua:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Agadi:
Shri Wodeyar:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 383 on the 12th August, 1960 and state whether the two new land routes to Goa improving travel facilities have since been opened?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Yes; the two new routes were declared open for the movement of persons to and from Goa with effect from 1st October, 1960. However, traffic through these routes has not yet commenced as no corresponding facilities have been made available by the Portuguese authorities in Goa on their side of the border.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether there is any possibility to open the route in the near future?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: As far as we are concerned, the routes have been open since the 1st October. It is for the Portuguese Government to decide whether they should provide

the necessary facilities so that people could come and go through these routes.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: May I know whether the control of these two routes has been handed over to the Reserve Police and has been taken away from the Customs Department?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Yes, Sir.

Dr. Vijaya Ananda: Is the opening of new land routes an improvement in relations?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): If the hon. Member is fair to himself, he can himself judge whether it will or not.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is not a fact that when originally the routes to Goa were closed it was done with the object of putting pressure on Portugal to quit Goa? If so, when these routes are now open, does it mean that conditions have altered?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Conditions, of course, always go on altering everywhere. But that does mean that we want to remove restrictions—it has less to do with Government—on the people. On careful consideration we considered that students and others who come and go should not be obstructed or prevented from coming or going or put to some difficulty in roundabout ways. That certainly was a point before us.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that foreign businessmen are proposed to be allowed through these routes with visas? If so, does it mean that we encourage foreign trade through our routes with Goa?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know, Sir. Foreign businessmen can go, I presume, as an individual can go if he has got the necessary papers. Foreign businessmen as such are not barred from going. They can, of course, go to Goa by sea all the time

they like. They can come presumably to India—to Bombay or elsewhere—also without any difficulty. So there is no particular advantage in barring them from crossing that route. But I am not sure that they are. I have not heard of many foreign businessmen going there.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is not a fact that the original route via Castle Rock was at least sufficient for checking smuggling that is going on? If it is so, why should we have two more routes?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It does not affect that it was considered sufficient. In spite of every effort, smuggling has been going on and it was considered that under the new arrangements made there will be a greater check on smuggling.

Rebate to Handloom Weavers in U.P.

***456. Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge amount as arrears of rebate to handloom weavers' co-operative societies in U.P. is outstanding for payment;

(b) if so, the amount outstanding as arrears on the 1st October, 1960;

(c) the reasons for the delay in payment; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to pay regularly?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the Uttar Pradesh Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether information is being collected or whether any information exists about the arrears of rebate on 1st October, 1959, even?

Shri Kanungo: Regarding the arrears before 1959 accounts were submitted by the U.P. Government but there were certain discrepancies.