

(c) The sponsoring Committee of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation is arranging to present suitably engraved mementos to the members.

#### Cess on Coal

\*671. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**  
**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad:**

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

(a) whether a proposal to impose a cess on coal is under consideration of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the rate at which it is proposed to be imposed and the yield expected from the same?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) and (b). The excise duty on coal levied under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952 has already been raised by 80 naye paise per ton with effect from 8th June, 1961. From that date the rates of excise duty are Rs. 1.68 per ton on coal and soft coke and Rs. 2.52 per ton. on hard coke. The additional yield is expected to be Rs. 4 crores per annum and this amount will be utilised for the scheme of subsidised movement of coal by the rail-cum-sea route from collieries in West Bengal and Bihar to the coastal states in the South and the West.

#### Industrial Management Pool

\*672. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision regarding the expansion of the industrial management pool;

(b) if so, what is the decision; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) to (c). Recruitment to the Industrial Management Pool has been undertaken only recently. The question of

further expansion of the Pool would be a matter for decision only after watching the working of the Scheme for some time.

#### Geological Survey of India

\*673. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to shift the headquarters of the Geological Survey of India from Calcutta;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) when the decision is going to be implemented;

(d) the estimated expenditure on the shifting and reorganisation of the institution; and

(e) whether the standard of geological work is expected to improve as a result?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) No, Sir. It is not proposed to shift the headquarters of the Geological Survey of India from Calcutta. All that is contemplated is some measure of decentralisation so as to enable the Department to function more effectively and efficiently.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

#### Bangalore Airport

\*674. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have any proposals for the improvement of the Bangalore airport facilities particularly to equip it for Boeing flights; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the scheme and when it is likely to be completed?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) The improvements recently made render the runway at the HAL Airfield in Bangalore adequate for landing and take off of Boeings.