

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 29th May, 1957.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any hon. Members who have not taken the oath here? I see none.

The House will now take up Questions. There are 93 Questions. They should try to divide them.

#### Mineral Deposits in Himachal Pradesh

\*530. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate taking up geological investigations in respect of mineral deposits in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the mineral deposits that are reported to occur in the territory; and

(c) whether the work has already been started?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) and (c): Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India has been carrying out investigations in the past and will continue to do so in future as part of their annual field programme.

(b) Asbestos, Beryl, Barytes, China clay, Coal, Copper, Galena, Gold, Gypsum, Iron ore, Lead, Limestone, Magnetite, Mica, Pyrites, Salt, Slate and Sulphur.

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**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know whether suggestions are asked for from the State Governments about the geological survey in the States and whether the State Mining Department selected certain samples for examination?

**Shri M. M. Das:** So far as suggestions from State Governments are concerned, it has been the practice of the Geological Survey of India to ask for suggestions from the State Governments as to what particular type of investigations they should carry out. I do not know whether Himachal Pradesh has got any geological survey department.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know whether any steps have been taken for the exploitation of these minerals?

**Shri M. M. Das:** The Ministry of Steel, Mine and Fuel is concerned with this particular work on the mines.

#### Foreign Exchange

\*531. { **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:**  
**Shri L. N. Mishra:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated saving in foreign exchange during the period from January to March, 1957, as a result of measures taken to check the drain on foreign assets; and

(b) how much of the foreign exchange was expended on private account and how much on Government account for the year 1956-57?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) It is not possible at this stage to state with any