

the same figure is being mentioned even now. I would like to know whether there has been any progress or any rise in production since last year.

**Sardar Majithia:** As I said, due to shortage of certain raw materials, we could not increase it any further.

### अन्नक निक्षेप (डिपोजिट्स)

\*१८१५. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन और बंशानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपया करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की सीमाओं के निकट सोन नदी के दक्षिणी भाग में अन्नक के निक्षेप पाये गये हैं ?

शिक्षा उपमंत्री (डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली) : आवश्यक जानकारी विवरण पत्र के रूप में सभा-पटल पर रखी जाती है। [दक्षिण परिशिष्ट १, अनुबन्ध संख्या १६]

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : उसका सर्वेक्षण आरम्भ हुआ है या नहीं ?

डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली : जी हां, यह सर्वे की ही रिपोर्ट है।

श्रीमती कमलानुमती शाह : क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश के हिमालयों को सड़क बनाते वक्त जो बहुत सा माइका मिलता है, उसका सरकार को पता है ?

डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली : जी हां, जिस स्थान का जिक्र इस प्रश्न में किया गया है, वहां पर माइका मिलता है और यह बात सरकार को मालूम है लेकिन व्यापार की दृष्टि से वह बहुत लाभप्रद सिद्ध नहीं होगा।

**Shrimati Sushama Sen :** May I know whether Government have any scheme for the utilisation of the mica found in South Bhagalpur ?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimall :** If the hon. member gives notice, I shall try to answer that question.

### Andaman Islands

\*1876. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken for the purchase of a second ship to connect the Andaman Islands with the mainland ; and

(b) whether Government propose to take up the development of the ports of these Islands ?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Yes, it is proposed to acquire a vessel as soon as may be possible.

(b) Yes; it is proposed to consider schemes for the development of some ports for the Second Five Year Plan.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** May I know that will be the frequency of the service between India and the Andamans as a result of buying this vessel, which is being demanded for a long time ?

**Shri Datar :** The frequency expected would be one sortie every week.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** What would be the cost of the ship which is proposed to be bought ?

**Shri Datar :** It is proposed to purchase a second-hand ship. The cost is expected to be Rs. 30 lakhs.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** May I know whether there has been any attempt to develop communications between the three Andamans—North Andamans, Middle Andamans and South Andamans—in the past years ?

**Shri Datar :** I have answered that question already. That point is also under acute examination.

**Shri Kamath :** It is a fact that our hon. colleague in this House, Bishop Richardson, who represents those islands, is unable to attend sessions here because he is often stranded owing to lack of transport facilities ?

**Shri Datar :** Government are aware of the hardship caused to the hon. Member, and they are trying to do their best to remove it.

### Canteen Stores Department

\*1819. **Shri Ram Dass :** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the answer given to a supplementary question to Starred Question No. 1924 on the 5th April, 1955 and state :

(a) whether the pay scales of the employees of the Canteen Stores Department have been equated with those of Government employees ; and