

(d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be sent; and

(e) whether the Government have declared this area as restricted area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

SHRI MOHANLAL JHIKRAM: Sir, I seek your protection: In reply to my question the hon. Minister said that the question does not arise. I would like to know the basis for this reply. Was there any survey or was any team sent there or has the hon. Minister simply said that such a question does not arise.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV: The Geological Survey of India conducted a survey in Nainpur in Mandla district during 1987-88 and 1989-90 and found only granite deposits there. There were no platinum deposits at that time in the area.

SHRI MOHANLAL JHIKRAM: Sir, will another survey be conducted through experts? The nearby Balaghat district has abundant deposits of copper, manganese and mica. May I know which other minerals are found in that area.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV: As far as platinum is concerned, the Indian Bureau of Mines has informed that there is no possibility of finding platinum deposits there. Atomic Minerals Department there has also done work in this direction and come to the conclusion that there are no platinum deposits in that particular area.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether platinum deposits were found at any other place in Madhya Pradesh during the survey.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV: Sir, this requires some time because information has to be sought from the Atomic Mineral Department.

Armed Battalions of States working under Union Government

*511. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Armed Battalions of various States working under the Union Government;

(b) whether some States Governments have apprised the Union Government of the difficulties being faced by them due to such deployment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which those Battalions are likely to be sent back to their respective States?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Union Government has sent 28 coys. of certain State Armed Police Battalions on deployment to various States/UTs in the Union.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Sir, the police forces in the States are facing an acute shortage of manpower. Till when will the Central Government go on borrowing manpower to meet this shortage and why are the battalions of C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. not being increased?

MR. SPEAKER: Is your question directed at the Central Government?

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Till when will the Central Government go on borrowing manpower from the States to meet the shortage of manpower in the police forces? This creates a problem in the States because they are not able to mobilise enough manpower when the need arises. Why are the more battalions of C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. not being raised?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir, the hon. Member must have slightly misunderstood the mechanism of providing forces to various States. If forces are required in a particular State,

then the Central Government usually suggests to the neighbouring State or to some other State to provide battalions to the respective State. So, it is not a permanent borrowing from the State Government to absorb all the forces out of the State. Any State requiring additional forces are provided from the CRPF also as and when they are required.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Sir, I am on a point of order;

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order during the question hour.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Sir, the reply to this question is not correct.

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask a supplementary.

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Sir, the reply is not correct. The hon. Minister is not differentiating between battalions and companies. My question was on the number of battalions but the hon. Minister has given the figure of 28 companies in his reply. Further it has not been stated as to the number of battalions of Rajasthan on deputation to the Centre.

I say this from personal experience as D.I.G. of police in Jaipur when communal riots occurred in November, 1969. Two battalions of the Rajasthan Police were on deputation to the Centre and their presence would have immensely helped in controlling the riots. As it is the State of Rajasthan . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: In this way battalions from Rajasthan are sent on deputation on a number of occasions. There have been many cases where the members of such battalions have lost their lives and no compensation has been paid till now.

MR. SPEAKER: So will compensation be paid?

[English]

Those who have died in action will be paid compensation or not is the question.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: It is up to the

Rajasthan Government to decide about the compensation to be paid in action.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Sir, I think the concept of the original question has changed. The hon. Member is asking about the number of armed battalions in various States.....

MR. SPEAKER: If he has no complaints why are you worried?

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Is it true that some battalions of the State Government have been deputed to the Centre for the latter's needs?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir, if the hon. Member is wanting to know about a particular State, then probably the question should be as to how many battalions are taken out of the State by a particular State and how many are given to the State.

MR. SPEAKER: No. He wants to know whether the Central Government has taken any battalions from the State for Central Government's purposes.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: No Sir, it is not for the purposes of the Central Government.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister the number of battalions from each State deputed to the Centre? (Interruptions)What is the amount due from the Centre to the States in this respect?

MR. SPEAKER: The reply to that question has been given just now?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: The reply has not been given. There is a lot of money due to the RAC?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Central Government has provided the battalions to various States. Four battalions have been taken out from India Reserves in Madhya Pradesh. In Chandigarh, six battalions have been taken out. 20 PAC battalions have been taken from Uttar Pradesh....(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I may make it clear that it is not for purposes of

Central Government. These battalions are provided to other States.

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I mentioned earlier. This exactly is the confusion.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know the number of battalions demanded by the Central Government from State Governments for its own purposes and the names of the states?.....(Interruptions).....There is a large amount of money of R.A.C. outstanding against Central Government. May I know the reasons thereof?

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied the question in negative.

(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. KANITHI VISWANATHAM: Sir, In Andhra Pradesh, we have not so far been able to control the extremist movement. I would like to know whether there is any demand from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for installing the Central Forces to control the extremist movement in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: We require notice Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker I believe that the question asked by the hon. Member.....

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, if he does not complain, why do you?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: He has.

MR. SPEAKER: No he doesn't have any complaint.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: If he does not have any complaint, I have one. He has asked the question—the number of armed battalions of State Governments are working under the Central Government? It has been replied as—Central Government has despatched 28 companies of Armed Police Battalions of some States to be posted in various States/Union Territories. Question is something else and the reply is altogether different, so, may I know from the hon. Minister.....(Interruptions).....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make it a court where arguments are advanced. Please ask a question. Anyway, the Central Government has not taken anything for its purpose.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The question is, whether it is a fact that the Central Government has taken some police battalions from States under its own control? It has been replied as—Central Government has taken some. That is why I say that.... (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, the hon. Member who asked the question has no objection. Please do not argue. Put a question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know whether the question that I have asked is correct or not? The Hon. Minister may please reply whether the basic question is based on truth?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Whatever has been said in reply, is correct.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether it is not a fact that compensation has not been paid to the personnel of the companies or R.A.C. deputed by the Central Government to Chandigarh and Tripura, despite of the casualties suffered by them? If so, the time by which the compensation would be paid?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I suppose you need notice for this.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Yes Sir. We have to look into it. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, most of the personnel who have killed in Punjab were from R.A.C.....(Interruptions)...but no compensation is given....(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: No, Not like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Whether the battalions of R.A.C. are destitute? Please make it clear; In Punjab many

personnel of R.A.C have been killed, but the Government does not give any compensation.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. You need not speak for each other.
(Interruptions)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Are you satisfied with the reply given by the hon. Minister? (Interruptions)
[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand that every Member is wise enough, intelligent enough, has a very powerful language at his disposal and is able to defend himself. So, please don't take up others causes.

Vijayanagar Steel Plant

*512. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has chosen ESSAR Gujarat as the Joint Sector partner for setting up of the Vijayanagar Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to clear the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) M/s. Karnataka State Industrial Investment & Development Corporation Ltd. (KSIIDC), a State Government Undertaking of the Government of Karnataka, has selected M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. as their joint sector partner for setting up of an integrated steel plant in Bellary District of Karnataka. The proposed capacity of the Plant, at completion, is estimated to be 3 MTPA. The product mix will include low carbon, medium carbon, low alloy, medium alloy, high alloy, flat products in the form of strips, sheets and coils and special steel in the form of Bars and Rods and Structural.

In view of the recently announced changes in the industrial policy, a licence is not necessary for setting up this project by KSIIDC.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Sir, our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi

laid the foundation stone of Vijayanagar Steel Plant in the year 1971-72 but even after 20 years no progress has been made with regard to this plant. Now, a joint sector has come forward to take up the work. May I know from the Government, whether they are going to set up this Vijayanagar Steel Plant in the 8th Plan at least and see that it is completed within a stipulated time?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, it is a fact that the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indiraji laid the foundation stone of this Plant but subsequently due to constraint of funds, this particular project was not started. Now, under the new Industrial Policy which the Government of India has announced in July, 1991, there is no need of getting any licence from the Central Government and neither the Central Government is of the opinion to set up any public sector steel plant.

The Government of Karnataka has sponsored ESSAR Gujarat as the Joint Sector partner for setting up of the Vijayanagar Steel Plant. We shall extend whatever help is necessary from our Ministry to the Government of Karnataka and I am sure that the State Government will see that it is started immediately.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: I would like to know what was the estimated cost at the time of laying the foundation stone and what is the estimated cost of this plant today, that is what is the escalation.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, since this project is not with us, I cannot give the exact figure but in the year 1970, the projected cost was about Rs. 1000 crores. I am sure escalation will be there due to this devaluation and change of technology. Only yesterday I got a letter from the Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri. Bangarappa. As it has come only yesterday, we are examining it and we will give a suitable reply.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, I would like to know whether setting up of Vijayanagar Steel Plant was originally included in the Plan programme; if so, what has made the Government to take it out of the plan programme now because just now the Minister said that due to the